THE TIMES

30p

No. 65,518

MONDAY MARCH 4 1996

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13 PAGES OF SPORT

Match of the year

Cantona of Man Utd and Ginola of Newcastle clash tonight

Preview, PAGE 21



Peace process hangs by thread after 19 die in suicide attack on rush-hour bus

Israelis declare war on bombers

FROM CHRISTOPHER WALKER IN JERUSALEM

THE Middle East peace process hung by a thread last night after the third Islamic suicide attack within a week claimed at least 19 more lives and Shimon Peres, Israel's embattled Labour Prime Minister, declared "total war" against Hamas, the group which planted a bomb on a crowded rush-hour bus.

Mr Peres is now in serious danger of losing the May 29 election to the right-wing Likud, which is demanding much harsher action against the Palestinians. Mr Peres announced a security package as angry crowds roamed streets near the site of the atrocity calling for his assassination and praising Yigal Amir, the Jew who murdered Yitzhak Rabin, his predecessor.

Pressure on the 72-year-old Labour leader to abandon Mr Rabin's peace deal with the Palestine Liberation Organisation, now claimed to have cost more than 150 Jewish lives, came from many sides. President Weizman, the popular but mainly ceremonial head of state, called for an immediate halt to the peace talks. "We are at war," he said as a new round of harrowing funerals began. "We cannot go on like this."

Although the explosion bore all the hallmarks of previous attacks, it had a much greater psychological impact because it was on the same bus route and at almost the identical time that a suicide bomber struck last Sunday, killing himself and 24 others.

In more than eight years covering events in Israel, I have never seen angrier scenes than those witnessed all day in the centre of Jerusalem's commercial heartland. Thousands of right-wing Jews demanding revenge attacks scuffled with police. "This is the Peres dictatorship," one black-hatted man shouted.

"Six million Jews died in the Holocaust and we are left being run by shits like Peres who only cave in to Palestinian demands," another said.

The Peres security package was met with derision by many citizens at the site of the blast. Windows were shattered over a wide area, walls were charred and the body of a commuter could be seen hanging through what had been the window of a number 18 bus.

"The only thing Peres could have said to satisfy me was 'I resign'," said Peretz Gabai, 43, an electrician. "It is time to give someone else a chance to run matters. This is not how you fight a war."

Benjamin Netanyahu, the Likud leader, has wiped out Mr Peres's comfortable 15-point opinion poll lead as a result of the three terrorist attacks in the past week.

But at a nationally televised news conference, the Prime Minister brushed aside questions about the electoral implications of the attack. His new security package included putting Jerusalem on a war footing, with the drafting in of thousands of extra security personnel, destroying the homes of the families of suicide bombers, creating an 800-strong unit of security guards for buses and erecting a fence to separate Israel from the West Bank and Gaza Strip.

Mr Peres stopped short of announcing that Israeli troops would be sent on limited missions to Gaza and the six West Bank towns they have evacuated. But Lieutenant-General Amnon Shahak, the Army Chief of Staff, said that if Yassir Arafat, leader of the Palestine Liberation Organisation, did not clamp down on terrorist groups in Gaza "someone else will have to".

Mr Arafat, whose own survival as Palestinian leader is linked to Mr Peres's resolution in pursuing the peace accord signed in September 1993, announced that he was agreeing to Israeli demands to outlaw the military wings of Hamas and other groups in the self-rule areas. He also sent six armoured personnel carriers on to the streets of Gaza. But Israelis remain deeply cynical about Mr Arafat's readiness to take on Hamas in a confrontation that could lead to a Palestinian civil war.

A fresh attack had been expected since the Israeli Government last week rejected a Hamas offer of a conditional ceasefire which included a demand for the release of all Hamas prisoners.

Revenge demand, page 9

Brian Hendler/AP



A police officer and a paramedic run from the bomb-shattered bus in the aftermath of yesterday's suicide attack in central Jerusalem

Unionist parties boycott talks on elections

BY NICHOLAS WATT AND ARTHUR LEATHLEY

INTENSIVE talks aimed at finding a political settlement in Northern Ireland will begin in Belfast today without two of the main parties, who announced a boycott of the meetings last night.

The Ulster Unionists and Democratic Unionists insisted that they would not attend meetings at the conference centre at Stormont because the talks suggested an unacceptable form of joint authority by London and Dublin over Northern Ireland.

The boycott came as the search for peace was hindered by claims from a loyalist splinter group that it had abandoned the ceasefire. The unnamed group, which is believed to include members of the Ulster Volunteer Force and the Ulster Defence Association, said it would target republicans because of the renewed IRA campaign. In a statement to the Belfast *Sunday Life* newspaper, a hooded gunman said: "If the IRA desires a war, it will not be a one-sided one."

The warning came after Sir Patrick Mayhew, the Northern Ireland Secretary, sent out invitations to eight political parties in Northern Ireland to attend today's talks which he will host jointly with Dick Spring, Ireland's Deputy Prime Minister. Sinn Fein has not been invited because of a ban on ministerial contacts with it following the collapse of the ceasefire. Instead, it has been told it must request

Continued on page 2, col 8

More turn to The Times

Readership of *The Times* is rising sharply at the same time as that of the *Daily Telegraph* is falling, according to the latest figures from the National Readership Survey.

While the number of *Times* readers rose by 4.5 per cent compared to the same period last year (August to January), the *Daily Telegraph* lost 6.2 per cent of its readers, a loss of 166,000.

The Times was the only quality daily newspaper to rise in readership. Growth of *The Times* was particularly strong (up 10.1 per cent) among those aged under 45.

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Tory and Labour MPs call for debate on monarchy

BY JAMES LANDALE, POLITICAL REPORTER

CROSS-PARTY pressure for a national debate on the future of the monarchy grew yesterday as Labour MPs voiced fresh criticism of the Prince of Wales and the Royal Family.

Amid growing resentment on the Labour benches over the way Tony Blair forced Ron Davies, the Shadow Welsh Secretary, to apologise for his critical remarks about the Prince, a former Tory minister urged the Royal Family to stop demeaning itself.

George Walden, outgoing Tory MP for Buckingham, called on Parliament to present Buckingham Palace with a list of grievances about the Royal Family in the style of the *Grand Remonstrance* made to Charles I in 1641.

"I think it would be very nice — in an ideal world — if the Government and Opposition could get together and send a message from the House of Commons to the Royal Family — a *Grand Remonstrance*, suitably delicately phrased — that you are actually demeaning yourselves and this country, would you please stop," he told GMTV's *Sunday* programme.

"When you think of all these sordid money deals, when you think of all these blabbing lovers, these duchesses and princesses — are we supposed to defer to these people?"

Steven Norris, the junior Transport Minister, said there was nothing wrong with having a debate on the Royal Family. "It's a perfectly proper subject for MPs to discuss, because it would be utterly unreal for us not to, when the rest of the country is," he told LWT's *Crosstalk* programme.

As Labour MPs insisted that they should be free to discuss the issue, close advisers to the Labour leader said Mr Blair did not want to stifle debate. Mr Davies, they said, had apologised for his intemperate language.

Inital backing for Mr Davies and a debate on the monarchy came from left-wing MPs such as Tony Benn and Ken Livingstone: yesterday others joined in.

Paul Flynn, MP for Newport West, said Prince Charles did not have a strong enough personality to be King. "If we have a future Prime Minister who decides to act in her or his personal interest and against the national interest, we need someone with as strong a personality as the Queen," he said on BBC Radio's *The World This Weekend*. "That is why I want a debate on this."

Tony Banks, Labour MP for Newham North West, called for a referendum on whether Britain should have a hereditary Head of State.

Nick Ainger, Labour MP for Pembroke, said: "We need a mature, honest debate."

Quiet weekend, page 3
Letters, page 17



Leeson faces jail inquiry over cash

Nick Leeson, the rogue trader who was blamed for the collapse of Barings Bank, is to be interviewed by Singapore inspectors in his Changi prison cell this week after claims that he has hidden away up to £23 million in secret bank accounts in three German cities ..... Page 40

Landslide win

John Howard's Liberal-National coalition won a landslide victory over Labor in the Australian general election. Howard's majority is the biggest in 21 years ... Pages 10, 17

Dial a Dalek to find out about leaves on the line

BY ALAN HAMILTON AND JONATHAN PRYNN

BRITISH RAIL'S notorious inability to tell customers accurately when its trains will run may be overcome by a voice-activated computer so advanced that it can understand not only Japanese but Geordie.

Researchers at Edinburgh University are developing a system that will recognise timetable inquiries on the telephone and respond, in a Dalek-like voice, by providing accurate up-to-date information on how to get from anywhere to anywhere else. The machine will also offer BR's full range of excuses, from leaves on the line to the wrong kind of snow.

Railway managers recognise that the present inquiry system, operated by mere humans and famous for its permanently engaged lines and wrong information, is in urgent need of being sidelined into history. They believe the present system's failings mean that some 35 million inquiry calls a year are never made. The managers are equally embarrassed about the inaccuracy of BR's printed national timetable.

The computer program, at the moment known as Arise (Automatic Railway Information Systems for Europe), is being developed jointly with the national railways of France, Germany and Holland. To date it has cost £400,000, half contributed by the European Union.

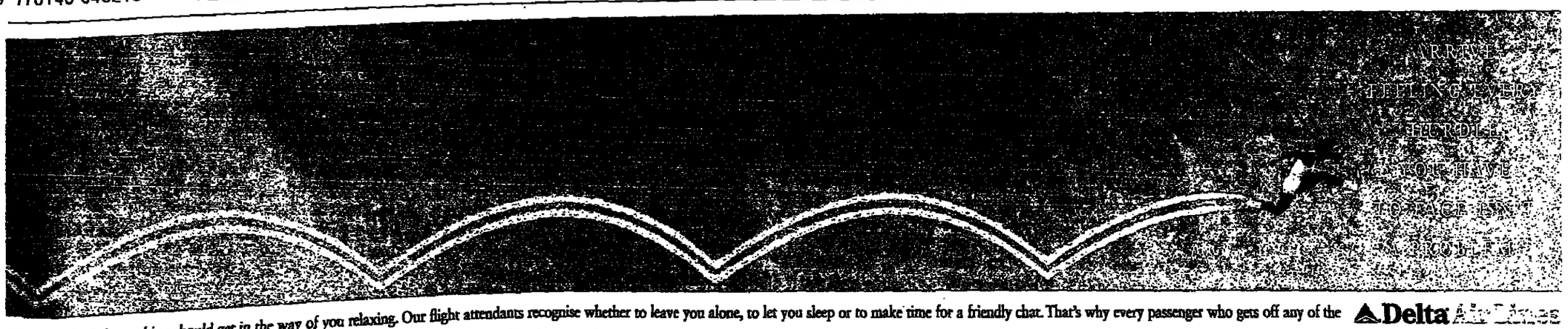
Robert Dunbar, BR's business development manager, said the program, still in the early stages of development, could already recognise the names of 300 stations spoken in a wide variety of regional accents, with 80 per cent accuracy. Before it could be used, however, it would have to learn 2,500 station names and be 95 per cent accurate. It was hoped it would eventually learn to recognise several foreign languages and reply appropriately.

"In principle," he said, "it takes the sounds it receives and chops them into little bits, matching them against a library of sounds. At the moment it is finding it far harder to understand women than men."

The hardest part of the project, Mr Dunbar admitted, would be programming callers to stick to a "script" that the computer recognised. Thus, a traveller wishing to go to Birmingham by way of Beachy Head and demanding to know why there is a buffet car only as far as Brighton, and why there is an hour's wait for a connection at Bexhill, is likely to send the machine into a severe and silent huff.

"Ideally, customers would not be able to tell if they are dealing with a human or a machine," Mr Dunbar said. Much like now, really.

TV & RADIO	38, 39	LETTERS	17	ARTS	14, 15	BUSINESS NEWS	35-38, 40
WEATHER	20	OBITUARIES	19	CHESS & BRIDGE	32	MIND & MATTER	12
CROSSWORDS	20, 40	PETER RIDDELL	16	COURT & SOCIAL	18	FASHION	11



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THIS WEEK IN THE TIMES

TUESDAY

THE TIMES ITF INTERACTIVE TEAM FOOTBALL

PLAY TO WIN
Check how your players are performing in our cash-prize Interactive Team Football game
PLUS: Libby Purves and Anatole Kaletsky, Commentator of the Year

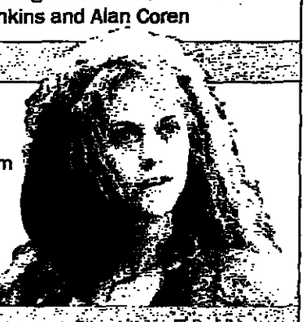
WEDNESDAY

INTERNET

Underwater weather forecasting in our weekly guide to new technology

PLUS: Nigella Lawson, Simon Jenkins and Alan Coren

THURSDAY



FILMS OF THE WEEK
Meg Ryan in the film of Rose Tremain's *Restoration*
PLUS: Health and the Books pages

FRIDAY



POP
Alan Jackson meets Holly Johnson, pop artist
PLUS: The Valerie Grove interview and the **Education** page

SATURDAY

THE 100 MOST POWERFUL WOMEN IN THE WORLD
Part 2, in the **Magazine**
PLUS: Weekend, Car 96, 1015 for young Times readers and **Vision,** the 7-day TV and radio guide



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Legislation would strengthen penalties

Labour backs calls to crack down on stalking

By Jill Sherman
Political Correspondent





Jack Straw and Tessa Jowell are drawing up proposals to increase the protection of women from persistent harassment, such as being followed or spied upon

STALKING would be made a criminal offence carrying a prison sentence of up to four years under proposals being prepared by Labour.

The move follows growing concern that the existing law fails to protect women adequately from persistent harassment, including being constantly followed or spied upon by men.

Labour also plans to extend the present definition of stalking to include malicious telephone calls; repeatedly phoning a person and then putting the phone down when they answer; and sending threatening letters.

Jack Straw, the Shadow Home Secretary and Tessa Jowell, Labour's spokeswoman on women, are drawing up the proposals, which are likely to be announced later this week.

Ms Jowell, who has timed the announcement for the run-up to International Women's Day next Friday, says that there are no laws which cover persistent harassment over an extended period. She emphasises that stalking is a heavily under-reported offence with only 5,000 cases identified each year.

Generally, women are the object of stalking and celebrity victims have included the Princess Royal, Lady Helen Taylor, daughter of the Duchess of Kent, and the actress Helena Bonham-Carter.

Alexandra Shulman, the editor of *Vogue*, yesterday disclosed that she had been forced to leave a flat where she once lived because of a male "pest".

"I had met the person but hardly knew him. It was not that serious; there was nothing physical. He would stay around the flat where I was living, ring the door bell and stand outside the flat. I knew he was there, I could see him but he was not threatening me. In the end I left the flat and went to live somewhere else for a few days. It was frightening."

She added that it was absolutely indefensible that in this country people had to wait until a stalker did something outrageous or harmed a person before the police could take action.

Eighty-five per cent of stalkers are men, and in 80 per cent of cases the person is known to the female victim.

The stalking compulsion is known by psychiatrists as erotomania, with pursuers suffering from the delusion that the pursued person either loves them intensely or would if they only knew each other.

"Stalking is a form of menace that can ruin the lives of women who have been stalked for years," Ms Jowell said yesterday. "Very often it is behaviour which is not taken seriously and the police have inadequate powers to deal with the persistence and repeated nature of this intimidation."

Under existing law, stalking is not a crime. It is only the ensuing actions such as threatening, abusive or insulting behaviour that enable the police to act. Police also have to prove that the stalker acted with intent to cause harassment and alarm.

The penalty for intentional harassment is six months in prison and a £5,000 fine but police say they are handicapped by the difficulties of proving intent.

Victims can take out an injunction to keep the stalker away from a certain area but they must know the name of the person to be subject to the injunction. The process can in any case prove ineffective.

Labour intends to introduce an order to prevent stalking. It would specify that a certain type of behaviour must stop and that if it continued the person would be arrested and charged, with a fine or imprisonment as the punishment.

Mr Straw and Ms Jowell are studying laws in California, Canada and Australia where stalking is already a criminal offence. Although no decisions have been made about the sanctions Labour would introduce, they are seriously contemplating the Canadian system where penalties include prison sentences of up to four years.

"We are bringing forward proposals so that there are proper criminal sanctions to punish perpetrators," Ms Jowell said. "That must send out a message to men intending to do this to women, and to women who have suffered this kind of menace for too long without feeling there was anything they could do about it."

Home Office ministers are also considering extending the present stalking laws to cover people who appear not to create an overt threat but who still distress their victims by their behaviour and presence.

In California, the maximum sentence for stalking is one year or a $1,000 fine, which is increased to four years maximum if a court order has been made or it is a second offence. In other states the prosecution does not have to prove intent.

NEWS IN BRIEF

Fraud inquiry opens at Royal Academy

Fraud squad detectives are investigating the finances of the Royal Academy of Arts after its former bursar was arrested in connection with alleged theft running into thousands of pounds. Trevor Clark, 43, has been dismissed from his middle-ranking post after being questioned by police over irregularities allegedly found in the organisation's accounts. A High Court writ claiming damages for fraud was issued last week against Mr Clark, who had been bursar at the Academy in Piccadilly since 1979. It was issued on behalf of all members of the academy and effectively freezes his assets.

Mr Clark has also been asked by the the vicar to resign from his position as treasurer of the parochial council of his local church, St Mary and St Andrew in Watton-at-Stone, near Ware, Hertfordshire.

Britons held over drugs

Two Britons have been arrested by Spanish police who uncovered hashish worth £22.5 million while they were searching for nationalist activists at a villa near Valencia. Neighbours alerted police after the men moved into the villa at about the time an Eta bomb exploded at a department store in Valencia, killing one. Police kept the villa under surveillance for three months before discovering 1½ tonnes of hashish in the basement. The men arrested were named by the Foreign Office last night as David Dunne, 23, and William Smith, 38.

L-plate death crash

A mother died while teaching her 17-year-old daughter to drive when their car swerved off the road and crashed. Kathleen Whitmarsh, 48, and her elder daughter Catherine, 23, were travelling with Catherine's sister, Anna Marie, a learner, when the car crashed into trees near Winchester before returning to the road and colliding with another vehicle. Anna Marie and her sister, from South Wonston, Hampshire, were freed from the wreckage and taken to hospital. Their mother was certified dead at the scene of Saturday's accident. The other driver was unhurt.

New publishing chief

Anthea Disney, a British-born journalist, was appointed president and chief executive officer yesterday of HarperCollins Publishing, one of the world's biggest book empires. Ms Disney, currently editor in chief of The News Corporation's Internet site iGuide, takes up the position on April 8. News Corp, owner of HarperCollins, is the parent company of *The Times*. She is replacing George Craig, who will stay on at the company in an advisory capacity. Ms Disney, who was born in Dunstable, Bedfordshire, acquired American citizenship four years ago.

Take That take top spot

Take That have gone straight to the top of the charts with their final single. The remake of the Bee Gees' *How Deep is Your Love* was outselling rivals such as Boyzone by more than five to one last week and yesterday it knocked Oasis off the top spot. The Britpop band had gone straight to number one themselves with *Don't Look Back in Anger* only last week. With the publicity accompanying Take That's decision to split, pre-release orders for their cover version of the 1977 ballad totalled 450,000. It is their eighth number one record.

The Republican movement's most influential members hold sway over Major's latest initiative

Three shadowy figures who hold the key to lasting peace

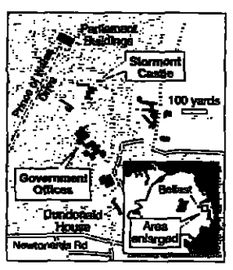
By Michael Evans and Nicholas Watt

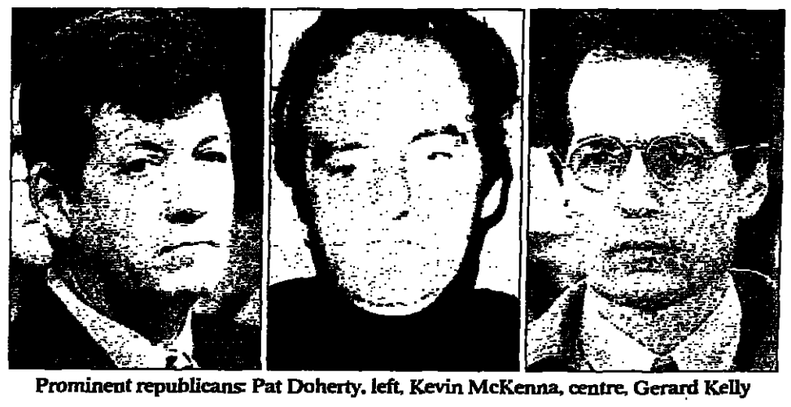
THE success or failure of John Major's latest initiative to bring permanent peace to Northern Ireland will depend on a small group of the most influential members of the republican movement.

They include Gerard Kelly, a convicted bomber and part of the team negotiating with British government representatives; Pat Doherty, Sinn Fein vice-president; and Kevin McKenna, jailed in the past for being a member of the IRA. **Pat Doherty**, 50, played a prominent role in the discussions that led to the announcement of a ceasefire in August 1994. He studied in Liverpool for the priesthood but at the age of 17 decided it was the wrong vocation. He is now one of Sinn Fein's most high-profile spokesmen, who headed his party's delegation at the Irish Government's national forum for peace and reconciliation. He is standing in the forthcoming parliamentary by-election in Co Donegal. **Kevin McKenna** 50, was jailed three times in the Irish Republic for membership of the IRA. He was involved in an IRA hunger strike campaign at Portlaoise prison in 1975 and was subsequently freed from jail after a High Court ruling. He is reported to be in bad health. **Gerard Kelly**, 41, is seen as one of the most powerful figures, because of his terrorist background, his time in jail and his position as part of the negotiating team. He was given two life sentences in 1973 for his part in the Old Bailey and Scotland Yard bombs which killed one and injured 250. He joined 37 other IRA prisoners in a breakout from the Maze prison in Belfast in 1983. Three years later he was arrested by Dutch police and extradited to Northern Ireland but only after the Dutch authorities insisted on having his double life sentences waived. He was jailed for five years for falsely imprisoning prison officers but was released in 1989 for good behaviour after serving only half his sentence. He joined Mr McGuinness in secret negotiations with the British Government between 1990 and 1993.

THE CONFERENCE CENTRE

TODAY'S talks will be held in a £2 million conference centre at Stormont that was fitted out last year for all-party negotiations. The centre is in a wing of the Castle Buildings in which all the major political parties in Northern Ireland have offices. The British Government's offices on the third floor, known as level five, are close to those of the Ulster Unionists. The Irish Government has a suite of offices on the second floor, along with the SDLP, Sinn Fein and the non-sectarian Alliance Party. Sinn Fein has been barred from using its rooms since the collapse of the IRA ceasefire last month.





Prominent republicans: Pat Doherty, left, Kevin McKenna, centre, Gerard Kelly

Gunmen's threats discounted

By Nicholas Watt

LOYALIST politicians insisted yesterday that Protestant paramilitary leaders would maintain their ceasefire despite threats from a splinter group to break the truce.

Billy Hutchinson, of the Progressive Unionist Party, the political wing of the Ulster Volunteer Force, said the paramilitaries were prepared to await the outcome of the Anglo-Irish initiative before deciding their next move. But he issued a warning that continuing IRA violence could send Northern Ireland back "into the abyss".

His comments came after a hooded gunman told a Belfast newspaper that a new loyalist terrorist group had abandoned the ceasefire and would target republicans. In a statement read out to a reporter from *Sunday Life*, the gunman claimed that the IRA had declared war on the British people.

It was unclear yesterday whether the new group, which is believed to include members of the Ulster Volunteer Force and the Ulster Defence Association, will present a serious challenge to the loyalist leadership. However, the statement did echo fears that have been voiced by mainstream loyalists in recent weeks.

Boycott

Continued from page 1

meetings with government officials.

The talks, which were described as "intensive multilateral consultations" in last Wednesday's Anglo-Irish communiqué, are designed to hammer out an agreement on elections in Northern Ireland, and will last until next Wednesday.

If the parties are unable to reach agreement, Britain will introduce its own proposals for elections in legislation.

However, John Major could face severe disruption over this issue in the Commons as Tory MPs raise fears about concessions made to the IRA. Senior Conservatives said yesterday that they wanted more pressure applied for paramilitary weapons to be destroyed.

Ministers will attempt to rush through a Bill next month to enable elections to take place in late May. But one senior unionist said last night: "The timetable is very tight ... If ministers refuse to accept proposals that have the support of most political parties, we would not be doing our job if we did not use whatever means necessary to block the Bill."

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Britons hope for end to harassment

Capitulation by French promises end to ski wars

BY OLIVER AUGUST AND JOANNA BALE

FRENCH ski instructors, who for years have jealously guarded the right to teach skiing in their country, have finally accepted an order from the European Union to give foreign rivals equal rights on the slopes. British instructors hope the move will end years of simmering hostility and threats of violence and imprisonment.

British instructors were barred from French ski slopes because foreign qualifications, including the top grades awarded by the British Association of Ski Instructors, were not recognised.

British instructors could be chased off the piste by members of the École du Ski Française. In 1990, when poor snowfalls meant that up to 70 per cent of French instructors were unemployed, 50 British instructors were arrested and warned off or charged with illegal instruction.

The French were finally forced to surrender after threats that further opposition to the equal rights rules would result in legal action in the European Court of Justice. The French Government last week agreed to accept instructor certificates obtained outside France.

Chantal de Bourmont, of the French representation in Brussels, said: "We now accept that you don't have to have a French certificate to teach skiing in France. The decree, which is making life difficult for foreign instructors, is being overturned."



Ross: said French stand had maintained quality

The news was welcomed by the British skiing community. Hugh Monney, an instructor who has campaigned for a rule change since 1990, said: "The unions on the French slopes have held these changes up for years."

Even instructors with a full British certificate had to complete a slalom course in times close to those of Olympic skiers before being allowed to teach. The test was seen as a device to keep the number of foreign instructors down; nearly 90 per cent failed.

The legal battle between instructors from the Ecole du Ski and their foreign counterparts began six years ago when Mr Monney complained to the EU. Since then instructors have not only exchanged solicitors' letters but also blows on the slopes. Mr Monney, one of the handful of Britons who hold a French diploma, said he was legally teaching a group of English children at Morzine when a group of French instructors threatened to "punch them all the way back to the United Kingdom".

The Ecole du Ski in Meribel has been known to send out search parties for British, German, Swiss and Austrian instructors teaching "illegally". In the afternoon, some École instructors would scour the slopes and grab a ski or pole of foreign instructors, sending them sliding helplessly down the piste.

"They are not just protecting their business," said Tom Kazanak, who works in a Meribel hotel and earns pocket money by teaching English tourists. "Chasing us is a sport. After a morning of teaching beginners, they are so frustrated and aggressive they just bomb down the slopes and nick some of our equipment.

"With these new rules, we can set up our own businesses, and ultimately the French will profit from that. The better the lessons in English, the more English people will come here to ski and stay in French hotels and buy French food."

The veteran ski instructor Ali Ross, based in Tignes since 1969, backed the French stand. "Highly qualified people never encountered these problems. This has done a lot to help maintain standards," Mr Ross said.



JULIAN HERBERT

The Dome is to be turned into a nightclub but Claire Tomkinson, manager of the 75-year-old cinema, hopes that it will be reborn

Last reel for Britain's longest-running cinema

BY MARCUS BINNEY

THE Dome in Worthing, claimed to be Britain's longest-running cinema, is to have its historic fittings stripped out to become a nightclub. Worthing Council's decision to sell the Grade 2 listed building, the town's only full-time cinema, has outraged local people, 35,000 of whom signed a petition to save it. The council says that the building is uneconomic to maintain.

The Dome was built in 1911 and fitted out as a 500-seat cinema ten years later. It is one of only a few still using carbon projectors, the original method of showing films. The auditorium has the character of a music hall, being overlooked by narrow balconies on three sides. The ceiling, studded with domes and cupolas features opulent Edwardian plasterwork.

The Dome was used as a set for the film *Wish You Were Here*, which starred Emily Lloyd. In the entrance is the original wooden ticket kiosk with an Automaticket machine with brass top offering tickets at prices ranging from six pence to two shillings. Mia Gordon, the deputy manager said: "It's an absolutely foolproof system and we still use it when the computer goes down, which it frequently does."

Rob Blann, chairman of The Dome Preservation Trust, says: "The council has sold the cinema for £151,000, the price of a four-bedroomed house. It should be one of the icons of the Sussex coast. The nightclub will involve the removal of the raked floor and all the seating, but this will required listed building consent and we will be objecting very strongly."

In the 1950s the Dome had four projectionists and a winding boy. Today there are only two. One of them, Robert Town, says: "Our Peerless Magnarc projectors are the Rolls-Royces in their field. They're more than 50 years old, in use for six to seven hours, seven days a week, and still project a rock-steady picture."

Richard Gray of the Cinema Theatres' Association said: "This is a place full of atmosphere and history. Worthing already has five nightclubs. It should follow the example of other towns such as Great Yarmouth and Harrogate which have restored their earlier cinemas."

The cinema's prospective owners, the Chapman Group, say they will create a cinema elsewhere in the building.

Wife's fear over fatwa sought by husband

BY JOANNA BALE

A BRITISH mother has promised to defy a fatwa sought by her estranged Egyptian husband to stop her reclaiming custody of their children. Emma Habeeb, 24, has been in fear for her life for three weeks after a Muslim court issued the edict on behalf of Mohammed Habeeb.

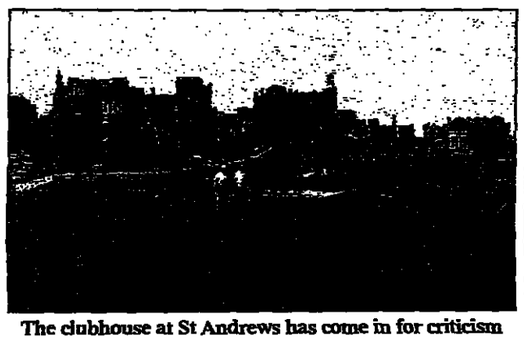
Mr Habeeb, a member of El Jihad, a fundamentalist Islamic group, kidnapped their two small sons from their home in Leeds four weeks ago. He broke a British court order forbidding him from taking the children out of the country and returned to the couple's flat, 50 miles from Cairo.

Mr Habeeb has told his wife that she will be killed if she sets foot in Egypt. He has also threatened his British parents-in-laws if they try to see their grandsons. The police have installed an alarm at Mrs Habeeb's home in case anyone tries to carry out the fatwa.

Mrs Habeeb said yesterday: "I've spoken to my sons on the phone and they want to come home. I believe the British Government can get my kids back if enough pressure is put on them."

Mr and Mrs Habeeb married eight years ago when he was studying at Leeds University. Mrs Habeeb had converted to Islam before being introduced to Mohammed. They married three weeks later.

The marriage broke up after she told him she would no longer wear the veil required by Islam. She alleges violence.



The clubhouse at St Andrews has come in for criticism

OFT investigates sale of tee times

BY JOHN HOPKINS

A DEAL worth £5 million that involves the sale of tee times on the world-famous Old Course at St Andrews is under investigation by the Office of Fair Trading.

The Scottish Incoming Golf Tour Operators' Association claims the terms of the sale of starting times to a London-based firm, Keith Prowse Hospitality, on behalf of an American finance company, are potentially restrictive. The tee times can only be bought as part of travel packages costing up to £900 per person for a two-day visit.

"A complaint has been lodged with us and we are looking into it," an OFT spokesman said. "We are concerned with establishing whether or not this distorts the competition, and if it does, then what do we do about it."

The investigation follows an Inland Revenue inquiry into the financial affairs of the body that administers the golf courses in St Andrews, the Links Trust. The Trust currently enjoys charitable status for income and corporation tax purposes.

"We have a separate commercial arm known as St Andrews Links Ltd," Peter Mason, Links Trust's external relations manager, said. "St Andrews Links Ltd transfers profits to the parent company. It is a perfectly proper way of doing things. The National Trust does exactly the same. Our understanding is that our deal does not contravene any legislation."

The boom in the popularity of golf prompted the Links Trust to begin a major expenditure programme in 1986. It has spent over £7 million since then on a new golf course, a new practice facility and a £3 million clubhouse.

As well as displeasure among local golfers at the loss of tee times, there has been criticism of the lavishness of the clubhouse. Hoteliers in St Andrews fear golfers will be unable to afford the new package deals and there will be a loss of income to many of the small bed and breakfast hotels that line the town's streets.

Royal couple buzzed by unidentified flying gossip

BY ALAN HAMILTON

A BRIEF but merciful weekend lull in the Princess of Wales's public negotiations on her divorce forced yesterday's newspapers into the realms of frantic speculation.

The *News of the World* reported that two RAF Harriers chased an unidentified flying object from the skies above Balmoral, the Queen's Aberdeenshire holiday home, on Wednesday night. Unnamed witnesses said the jets appeared to have engaged in a dogfight with a bright light, which was visible eight miles away in the town of Ballater.

But a flying saucer on Royal Deeside is as nothing compared to the enemy forces said to be buzzing the Instantly Identifiable Flying Object currently lying low in Kensington Palace while her estranged husband breezily skis the pistes of Klosters, where he has been visiting an exhibition of his own paintings at a local bank.

The *Sunday Express* reported that Tory backbenchers were pressing the Prime Minister to prevent the Princess ever becoming a Labour MP, not an ambition she has hitherto been suspected of harbouring.

For its part, *The Sunday Telegraph*, normally less excitable, claimed that during their private meeting at St James's Palace last week, the Princess suggested to her husband that they should appear together on television to announce their divorce, in the same way that they appeared together to announce their engagement.

The Prince, hardly surprisingly, is reported have declined firmly to have anything to do with such an endeavour.

No doubt he had an awful vision of himself and his wife lounging on pastel sofas like Richard and Judy or Anne and Nick, the rival teams of daytime television presenters, while a procession of therapists offered passing and helpful thoughts.

Richard and Judy are married, apparently quite successfully; Anne and Nick are merely a professional pair who work well together. The Prince and Princess are neither.

Buckingham Palace wearily dismissed the stories as speculation.

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Brown: stayed calm

Castaway unmoved by radio grilling

BY ALAN HAMILTON

IN THE days of its founder, you would never have mistaken the gentility of *Desert Island Discs* for the aggressiveness of the *Today* programme.

Yet Sue Lawley, inheritor of Roy Plomley's chair, yesterday gave Gordon Brown, the Shadow Chancellor, a fair old grilling about why he was still a bachelor at the age of 45.

The twice-married Ms Lawley asked him if he was irritated by people constantly asking him about women and marriage. "Not at all," Mr Brown replied. "It just hasn't happened, and it's one of things that I suppose I'm surprised hasn't happened, but it hasn't."

That was not good enough for Ms Lawley, but the temper of the Church of Scotland minister's son still held.

Like a Welsh terrier with an old sock, Ms Lawley refused to drop the matter. "Do you understand people's curiosity ... People want to know whether you're gay or whether there's some flaw in your personality ..."

Mr Brown denied Ms Lawley's suggestion that he was a loner (although his chosen luxury item was a machine for playing tennis against himself) and insisted yet again: "It just hasn't happened. I hope it does. It may yet. It probably will do."

Bottomley urges firms to give shares as their trust funds drain away

Lottery grants raise fears of unfinished projects

BY ALEXANDRA FREAN, MEDIA CORRESPONDENT

VIRGINIA BOTTOMLEY will today urge companies to give shares instead of cash to arts and heritage institutions. The Heritage Secretary's announcement coincides with warnings from business sponsors, charitable foundations and individual patrons of the arts that a new form of donor fatigue is setting in because of the National Lottery.

Under rules laid down by the Government and the bodies that distribute lottery cash to good causes, most organisations receiving the money must obtain contributions from sponsors and charitable donors worth 10-50 per cent of their project costs. Such has been the unforeseen success of the lottery that corporate donors and charities say they will be unable to satisfy the huge and growing demand for private funding.

Colin Tweedy, director general of the Association for British Sponsorship of the Arts, has given a warning that there could be a £1 billion shortfall within four years between lottery grants and the linked amounts from donors. Charity experts are talking of a "nightmare scenario" of a nation dotted with half-finished lottery-inspired monuments and buildings as the supply of linked donations dries up.

Arts organisations are in no doubt that the proposals to be outlined today by Mrs Bottomley are a result of the lottery linked-funding crisis. The Heritage Secretary is to ask Moore Stephens, chartered accountants that specialise in charitable giving and lottery grant applications, to devise a scheme enabling listed companies to give their shares to charitable foundations at nominal cost and with no tax liability.

The foundations would then support arts organisations by securing low-interest loans against the value of the shares or by covenanting to them the dividend income from the shares. It is hoped that the scheme could raise up to £10 million for the arts a year. A spokeswoman for the Heritage Department said: "Everybody would benefit from such a scheme — the companies, the arts bodies and the charitable foundations."

When the lottery was set up, the Heritage Department estimated that the game would provide £150 million a year for good causes and that linked donations of £37.5 to £75 million a year would be needed. As the association's estimates put corporate giving to the arts at about £82 million a year, the figure seemed realistic.

The success of the lottery has exceeded all expectations, however, and it is raising more than £1 billion a year for good causes, creating a demand for linked donations well in excess of £250 million.



Tweedy: predicts £1bn shortfall in top-up cash

The Paul Hamlyn Foundation, which gives £3 million a year to arts, education and training projects, is one of the charities that believe the requirement for donations linked to lottery grants will have to be dropped. James Cornford, the foundation's director, said: "The amount of money from the lottery dwarfs the sums we have available."

Margaret Hyde, director of the Esmee Fairbain Charitable Trust, said: "I doubt whether anybody in Government has ever properly assessed how much matching funding would be required to support lottery grants."

Mr Tweedy believes that, unless action is taken now, the traditional sources of linked funding will dry up well before the millennium. Recipients of large lottery grants would be forced to ask American, Japanesee, Hong Kong and Korean philanthropists and foundations for their donations. "We could end up in the bizarre situation of asking these people effectively to underwrite the British National Lottery," he said.

The Heritage Department denies that there is a shortage of linked donations, although it concedes that the issue needs monitoring. It points out that private funding can be given "in kind", such as free office space, specialist advice and land. The department said that for every £1 of lottery money awarded to good causes, nearly £1.60 of linked funding had been pledged. But not all of this money had been handed over.

In the meantime, arts bodies are hoping that the Arts Council, the Heritage Memorial Fund and the Millennium Commission, which require 25-50 per cent in linked donations for their bigger grants, will follow the lead of the Sports Council. Next week the council will announce that its requirement that lottery applicants raise 35 per cent of their project costs from private donations will be lowered to 10 per cent for applicants in rural areas. The 10 per cent rule already applies for applicants in inner cities.



Virginia Bottomley wants to encourage companies to donate shares to charitable foundations

Companies worried by demands for donations

BY ALEXANDRA FREAN AND ANDREW PIERCE

CHARITABLE trusts and corporate givers said yesterday that burgeoning lottery grants were putting too much strain on the sources of private donations needed to supplement projects. John Russell, administrator of the **J. Paul Getty Trust** said that there were simply "too many" applications for funding as a result of the lottery.

"There is only so much money available, even in trusts which are linked to personal fortunes," he said. "It is no surprise that people are now deciding to turn away applications. It is causing particular problems in the art world." James Cornford, director of the **Paul Hamlyn Foundation**, said: "Lottery grants are for big capital projects and we are not keen on chipping in a bit here and a bit there for these. Rather than give money towards a new opera house, we would like to give our money to encouraging people who would not normally go to the opera to go."

David Goldesgeyme, sponsorship manager for **Lloyds Bank**, which as one of Britain's biggest coporate sponsors spends £5 million a year on sponsorship and charitable donations, said that many big businesses were no longer satisfied with contributing towards the big capital building projects that the lottery supported.

"Just putting your name on a building is not a particularly exciting way of marketing your product to teenagers," he said. Virtually every arts organisation in London that he had spoken to in recent months was submitting or plannig a lottery application. "There must be at least £200 million being sought from private donars at the moment and we are only in the lottery's second year. Where is the money going to come from? There's a feeling that the rules on matching funding will have to change."

Margaret Hyde, director of the **Esmee Fairbain Charitable Trust**, which donates about £11 million a year to the arts, education, social welfare, the environment and social research, said: "If they stick with the matching funding requirement and the lottery grows and grows, you could get to the point where a lot of programmes have been approved by the lottery boards but nothing can actually happen."

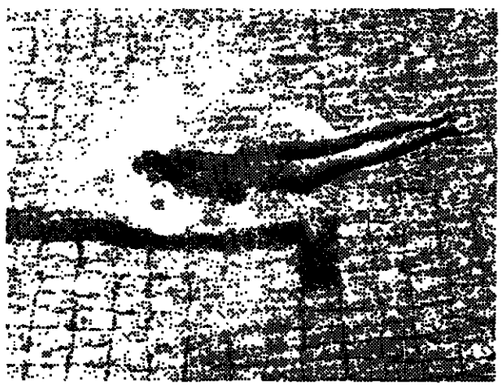
BT, Britain's biggest corporate giver, allocates £15 million a year, of which £1.8 million goes to the arts. Roger Broad, the company's head of sponsorship, said: "There are millions and millions of pounds of lottery money locked up and going nowhere because people who have been given lottery grants are having difficulty finding the funding."

He said that big capital projects did not bring the company the kind of returns it wanted. "We would rather sponsor a swimming championship than help to build a swimming pool. You can't just give away £15 million. You have to invest it in communities, people and events and not in bricks and mortar — that is for the banks."

But the **Sainbsury Family Charitable Trust**, which has 14 separate trusts giving £20-£30 million annually, said that it had not noted any notable rise in requests for funding since the launch of the lottery.

Janet Morgan, the assistant director, said: "Clearly a lot of projects are seeking large sums because of the lottery. It must be true that they they are looking for more than they were. We have so many unsolicited applications — maybe 7,000 a year. I cannot say that I have noticed a significant increase."

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Union urges teachers to steer clear of violence

BY JOHN O'LEARY, EDUCATION EDITOR

TEACHERS are being urged by trade union activists not to intervene in violent incidents even if a pupil is in danger.

The headmaster Philip Lawrence was stabbed to death in December when he tried to rescue a pupil from a gang outside his northwest London school. A government working party set up after the incident will complete guidelines on school security this week. The group, which includes union representatives, will call for stronger police powers to deal with school intruders.

Next month's annual conference of the National Association of Schoolmasters and Union of Women Teachers will hear a call for members to keep out of potentially violent confrontations altogether. A motion from the union's Derbyshire South branch demands that all members be advised not to put themselves at risk when they or their pupils are threatened.

Nigel de Gruchy, the union's general secretary, said: "Our advice to teachers at the moment is to be extremely careful and not do anything for which they have not been trained."

The sentiments behind the motion were condemned by Mr Lawrence's union, the Secondary Heads Association. John Dunford, the president, said: "You cannot tell people not to carry out their duty as a citizen in going to help someone in trouble."

Mr Dunford said Mr Lawrence's death had made teachers more aware of the dangers of intervening, but added: "Most NASUWT members that I know would not think twice about going to the rescue of a young person in trouble."

Security will be one of the main issues in approaching teacher union conferences.

Government guidelines on school security have been reviewed by the working party in the light of Mr Lawrence's death. A report to be published this month will support calls for legislation on the carrying of knives and suggest new police powers to arrest intruders on school premises. Union representatives want other offensive weapons to be included in any legislation, but this is unlikely to be practical.

The report will urge schools to review security and is expected to call for improved school discipline.

Robin Squire, the Schools Minister, will today announce an £18 million initiative on disciplinary measures. A total of 62 projects in 43 local authorities will experiment with "behavioural support teams", extra staffing for referral centres and school units for pupils on the verge of expulsion.

Gillian Shephard, the Education Secretary, has increased the funding for projects in the next financial year to almost £4 million. Support teams in 22 authorities will advise schools on the best methods of coping with disruptive children, while staff in 17 others will hone their disciplinary skills and help to raise academic standards in centres for excluded pupils.

Labour education adviser shuns local comprehensives

BY JOHN O'LEARY

A PROFESSOR who advises both Government and Opposition on state schools spoke yesterday of his regret at deciding that his daughter would be better off outside the comprehensive system.

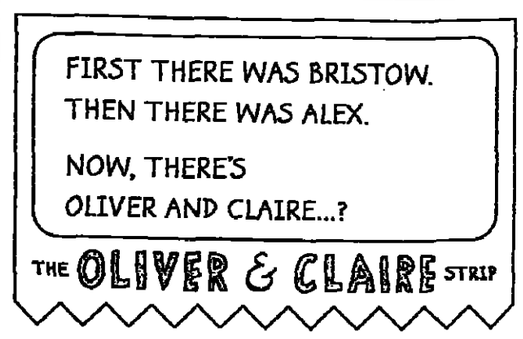
Professor Michael Barber, one of the architects of new Labour education policy, has ruled out sending his 11-year-old daughter to any of the comprehensives in Hackney, east London, where he once chaired the council's education committee. He has offered to resign from the governing body of Haggerston School.

Professor Barber, Dean of New Initiatives at the London University Institute of Education, is a member of the Government's schools improvement task force as well as being an adviser to Tony Blair. He said yesterday that he would have preferred to send Alys to a local comprehensive but it had been a family decision not to.

"Decisions about school choice have to be a partnership, and in this case the family settled on a selective independent or grant-maintained school," Professor Barber said. "Many parents, not just in the middle classes, now seek for their children an alternative to the inner-city comprehensive, and it is one of the great challenges to produce a state system that will woo them back."

Professor Barber, a former education officer of the National Union of Teachers, said: "I recognise that this decision exacerbates the very difficulties that inner-city schools face, but most parents simply want to do the best for their children."

Tory politicians described Professor Barber's choice as a fresh example of Labour "hypocrisy". Graham Lane, the Labour chairman of the Association of Metropolitan Authorities' education committee, said the decision was characteristic of an unrepresentative group that was advising Mr Blair.



NEWS IN BRIEF

Police use CS spray in 'violent dispute'

Police used a CS spray for the first time early yesterday to subdue a man involved in a dispute with a taxi driver. Officers used the new deterrent, issued to police in 16 forces on Friday, when the man resisted arrest outside a club in Oldham, Greater Manchester.

A police spokesman said that while attempts were made to arrest the man for an alleged criminal damage offence, "the officers were subjected to extreme violence and aggression and deployed CS incapacitant sprays". After medical treatment he "appears to have suffered no lasting effects from the spray".

Doctor shortage

Patients are being put at risk because more than half of NHS hospital casualty wards are short of junior doctors, Labour said. Harriet Harman, Shadow Health Secretary, released figures showing that 25 per cent of accident and emergency departments had vacancies and 57 per cent had problems in filling junior doctor posts.

Tanker cleared

The last of 65,000 tonnes of North Sea crude still aboard the stricken oil tanker *Sea Empress* was finally pumped off, two weeks after she ran aground off Milford Haven. At least 500 people are still involved cleaning beaches. More than 2,200 dead birds have been found and another 3,000 are being cleaned by the RSPCA.

Guns on train

Four handguns were found on a Bournemouth-Manchester train after a man who had been arguing with a ticket inspector jumped from a window at Wolverhampton. The man was then caught by transport police officers and questioned about his ticket. It was later realised he had not reboarded and the guns were discovered in a hold-all.

Body found

The body of Darren Baker, 27, was discovered in a field in West Sussex seven weeks after he was reported missing in a car crash four miles away. A police helicopter and dogs failed to find Mr Baker, a married man from Washington, after the crash at Findon on January 14. Foul play is not suspected.

Lavatory humour

A pharmaceutical company is sponsoring a cartoon competition to dispel the stigma associated with constipation, from which 14 million people in Britain suffer. The results of the challenge will be announced ahead of National Constipation Day, scheduled for April 16. The winner will receive £1,000.

Scapa mystery

An Army diving team will this summer try to discover what happened to the destroyer *HMS Pheasant*, which disappeared on March 1, 1917, while guarding the Atlantic approaches to Scapa Flow in the Orkney Islands. Of the 102 men on board, the body of only one, a Midshipman Cotter, was ever found.

Seal saviours

Staff at 16 Sea Life Centres around Britain are to provide a national network to respond to emergencies among the seal population around Britain. The centres, attractions featuring marine life in natural settings, will deal with problems caused by pollution, abandoned nets and uncaring parents.

£5m jackpots

Two tickets hit the jackpot in the National Lottery at the weekend, scooping £5.2 million each. Camelot, the organiser, said 19 tickets won nearly £170,000 for matching five numbers plus the bonus, and almost 1,000 collected £2,101 for correctly forecasting five numbers.

Winning numbers, page 20

Businessmen are told they can travel through cities in tanks as fears grow over organised crime

Travel agents offer armed bodyguards to British in Russia

BY RACHAEL JOLLEY AND STEPHEN FARRELL



Bodyguards from the Moscow security firm Grom. Last week, a British lawyer was killed when he was caught in gangland crossfire in St Petersburg

THE growth in criminal violence against Western firms in Russia has led British travel agents to offer visitors armed guards.

Fears over the rise in organised crime in Russia were highlighted last week by the death of John Hyden, a lawyer from Edinburgh shot in gangland crossfire in a St Petersburg hotel.

One agency, Hogg Robinson, said it could provide a "complete" security package through its subsidiary Russian specialists Worldmark Travel. "We could have you go around the city in a tank if you wanted one," said Bob Faggetter, Worldmark's sales manager. "You can have the guards armed, you can have them unarmed. You can virtually ask us for whatever you want. We could supply personal bodyguards or we could scale it down to a personal English-speaking guide with you in all situations."

The Times contacted a number of travel agencies, posing as a business seeking round-the-clock protection for three employees going on a two-week trip to Moscow, St Petersburg and Nizhniy Novgorod.

Worldmark and American Express both said they could arrange security, the latter through the Russian travel agency Intourist.

Others refused, citing the risks involved. Among these was Leeds-based Alpha Omega, which organised Mr Hyden's trip. "We have made arrangements for our own peace of mind when we went there, but we have never done it on a commercial basis for the simple reason that we did not know where we would stand if the guards we provided were unable to fulfil the role that they were contracted for," said Ian Wotton, the director.

"What happened to Mr Hyden was a tragic accident. We have never experienced anything like it before. But there are a lot of Western companies doing great business over there."

International hotels in Russia have themselves realised the need to offer guards. Prices quoted by the Grand Hotel Europe in St Petersburg ranged from $14 per hour (£9) for an English-speaking guide to $20 per hour for a guard armed with a pistol.

Specialist security agencies have sprung up in the cities. Sergei Botnev, head of the Moscow security firm Grom, said most of his foreign clients lived in the country and had long-term contracts with his firm to protect their homes and offices, with the guards paid $1,500 a month. Visiting businessmen pay $200 to $250 a day for two armed guards, with extras negotiated.

"We can find you what you want; if you want an armoured Mercedes we can find you one," Mr Botnev said.

Mr Faggetter said: "St Petersburg is probably the most sensitive area. There is more hooligan-type crime there — it is mafia, really. If they get an idea about something going on which is to their benefit, they will get involved. Of course we can get you met at the airport straight from immigration and get you hustled through Customs."

Mr Faggetter said that they had taken a trade mission to Alma Ata, the capital of Kazakhstan. "On that trip, we took an executive jet over to Tashkent and everywhere we went we had a Mercedes in front of our vehicle and a Mercedes behind us with guards in it and all the lights were set on green.

"That wasn't with any British government minister in attendance, that was purely a trade mission. So you can get looked after out there, but it costs money."

The Foreign Office and specialist security consultants produce saftey bulletins. The most recent guide from the firm Control Risks Group includes Mr Hyden's death and gun and bomb attacks involving criminal gangs. It refers to Chechen terrorist attacks; the murder rate per capita, at 30,000 murders in Russia in 1994, three times the US rate; and a 10.7 per cent increase in crime against foreigners in Moscow in early 1995.

"Local and foreign businesses should expect extortion demands from the gangs, which are often backed by threats of violence." Explosives are used in retaliation for non-payment, it says.

Big Bang doubts quelled by finding

BY NIGEL HAWKES
SCIENCE EDITOR

THE Big Bang theory has been vindicated by a new study which shows that the universe is about 15 billion years old. The finding resolves the paradox caused by earlier estimates of only about 10 billion years, which would make the universe younger than the stars it contains.

The new age is consistent with the age of the oldest stars, believed to be about 13 billion years. The team responsible, led by Dr Alan Sandage of the Carnegie Institution of Washington, says that the new results "eliminate the idea of a crisis in cosmology".

The team used the Hubble Space Telescope to measure the absolute brightness of a series of supernovae by observing variable stars in the same galaxies as the supernovae. A class of stars called Cepheid variables have the useful quality that the period with which their brightness rises and falls is related to their absolute brightness.

The Hubble telescope enables better observations of more distant Cepheids to be made. Their distance away from the Earth can be calculated by comparing how bright they appear with how bright they actually are. That, in turn, gives a good idea how far away the accompanying supernovae are.

Once the distance of the supernovae, known as Type 1A, is known, it is possible to work out their absolute brightness by seeing how bright they look and then making allowance for distance.

The team has now measured the peak brightness of six supernovae in different galaxies and included results on a seventh from another team. It found they are, indeed, remarkably similar.

Knowing speed and distance it is possible to calculate when they started out, at the moment of the Big Bang.

This turns out to be 15 billion years ago. The figure will come as a comfort to cosmologists because it is older than the ages of the oldest stars and thus enables the Big Bang theory to survive.



Morris: hid under seat

Parents sue theatre over Peter Pan 'nightmare'

A BOY aged three was allegedly so terrified by a production of *Peter Pan* that his parents are suing the theatre.

Morris Mitchener burst into tears when a pack of "wolves" burst on to the stage at the West Yorkshire Playhouse, Leeds, and he was scared stiff by the crocodile.

Morris dived under his seat within minutes of the curtain going up and sat through the next 45 minutes with his faced buried in his father's arms, wailing "Get me out, get me out".

His parents, Amanda and Mark Mitchener, who left during the interval, say Morris now has nightmares about the J.M. Barrie play. They blame the theatre for failing to give advance warning that the show might be unsuitable for under-sevens.

Mrs Mitchener, who is expecting her second child, said: "It was like an X-rated horror movie for a child of his age. I'd never seen *Peter Pan* done like this before."

The narrator's voice had sounded "like Peter Cushing at 100 decibels" and Peter Pan had come on stage dressed like a crow in a costume of black feathers. "It was a terrible ordeal. Morris has had nightmares and bad dreams ever since," Mrs Mitchener said.

The boy had travelled with his family from East Bergholt, Suffolk, to visit his grandmother. The family is suing for their son's stress and trauma after turning down an offer of tickets for another children's show.

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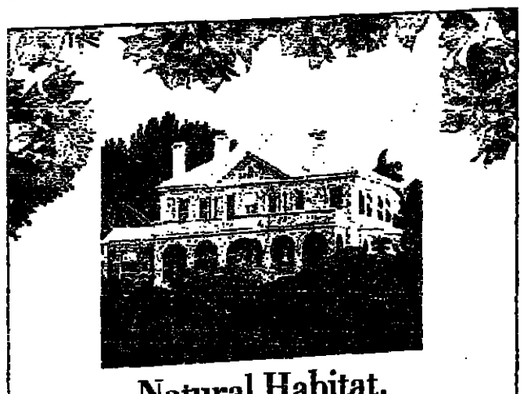
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Governor is 'not ruling anything in or out'

Patten hints at political comeback in Britain

FROM PHILIP WEBSTER IN HONG KONG



Chris Patten and John Major touring Hong Kong yesterday during the Prime Minister's visit

CHRIS PATTEN indicated yesterday that he would like to return to top-flight politics in Britain after his stint as Governor of Hong Kong ends in June next year.

The former Conservative Party chairman and continuing close confidant of John Major, who at 52 is a year older, told political journalists that he could "certainly" see circumstances in which he would make a political comeback. His remarks fuelled speculation that he sees himself as a possible leadership candidate. Mr Patten said he remained interested in issues at the centre of debate in Britain and Europe, a sentiment that will please Tories on the Centre Left. "How could I not be? I have been professionally involved in politics since I was 21," he said.

As party chairman during the crucial 1992 general election campaign, Mr Patten helped to defy the pollsters and steer the Tories to an unexpected victory. However, it was a bittersweet victory, for he found he had sacrificed his own seat of Bath in the process, and the blow was scarcely alleviated by his appointment as Governor.

After a period during which it appeared he would opt for a business career after leaving Hong Kong, Mr Patten has recently struck friends and colleagues with his unflagging interest in the British political scene. He is understood to have confided to friends that he would even consider a comeback if Labour were to win the next election. In such circumstances he would swiftly become a future Tory leadership contender.

Because of the timing of the Hong Kong handover to China, he will be unable to stand at the next general election, which must take place by May of next year. But yesterday's remarks about his future, that he was not ruling anything out, nor was he ruling anything in, suggested that he could follow the advice of his strongest supporters and stand in a by-election early in the next Parliament.

Suggestions that he has not given up hope of one day becoming Tory leader were raised by a recent speech in which he called for deep cuts in public spending, which some saw as an attempt to broaden his appeal to the Right. There have also been indications that he may be shifting his stance away from strong pro-Europeanism, including doubts about the target date for a single currency.

Mr Patten made his remarks on the eve of today's speech by the Prime Minister on the future of the territory after the handover. Although his comments were cautiously worded, he was clearly relaxed about being questioned over his political future. He said that when he was Environment Secretary he did not spend all his time thinking what he would do next; the same applied when he was party chairman.

"I do not finish here until after the last election date for the next election. So, as I have always known, I would miss that. I am still interested in all the political issues. I cannot fail to do that because I am a political animal."

Asked whether there were circumstances in which he could return he replied: "Yes, certainly. It would be unwise of me to follow that hypothesis too far. I am not ruling anything out. I am not ruling anything in."

His remarks will be of interest to senior Tories. Most believe that the only circumstances in which he might become leader are if the Conservatives lose the next election. If they win, Mr Major, having twice rescued victory from the jaws of defeat, would be expected to carry on.

The Governor's attempts to democratise Hong Kong before the handover have led him into a series of verbal battles with Peking. The Chinese have not minced their words. At various times they hve branded Mr Patten a serpent, a drooling idiot and a whore. At one point his close friends said he was suffering from "battle fatigue".

His problems have been the same as in Britain: he has been attacked for being too left-wing by the Right and too right-wing by the Left.



Spielmann at about the age he played before Emperor Franz Joseph, an event depicted in an 1891 newspaper

Daughter hunts for painting of father who died under Nazis

BY DALYA ALBERGE ARTS CORRESPONDENT

A WOMAN whose father died in a Nazi concentration camp is searching for an 1891 painting which shows him as a child prodigy playing the piano for the Austrian Emperor Franz Joseph and his family.

Lilly Gill, 73, was 15 when she made a dramatic escape from Czechoslovakia to Britain with her younger sister. Their father, who went into hiding after helping his daughters to flee, was dragged from his bed in the early hours by Nazi troops rounding up Jews.

Mrs Gill said: "My father, unable to escape from Prague, where my parents had fled from Germany, died in a concentration camp. I believe it was at Theresienstadt." Her mother, who was not Jewish, was arrested for trying to protect her husband but was eventually released. Later she received a curt official note: "Your husband died in 1940."

Mrs Gill's father, Leopold Spielmann, had given recitals at the age of eight for the Emperor and his daughters at their summer palace in Bad Ischl and at two other royal residences. She has found an 1891 Viennese newspaper which reported: "The boy gave an outstanding performance of his skill on the piano. The audience was captivated and gave him tremendous applause."



"His memory is so very dear to me": Lilly Gill and her father a few years before his death

Finding the painting that the newspaper published would provide her with a rare memento of him. She said: "I have been hoping to see the painting of my father, whose memory is so very dear to me."

She has contacted many sources, including Viennese museums and Markus Habsburg, a grandson of the Emperor, who lives at Bad Ischl, where her father played two or three times. She said: "They used to have concerts. Music and art were promoted by the daughters of the Emperor."

The painting, she discovered, was by Moritz Ledelie: "He came from Brno, then part of the Austrian empire. He was very popular with the royal family. He painted many court scenes. It is possible that the painting may have been bought by some member of the aristocracy, perhaps Emperor Franz Joseph's wife, Queen Elizabeth, who had close connections with royalty in England and visited this country on a number of occasions." Mrs Gill's father, who was born in Vienna in 1881, became a professor of music at the age of 23 at the Vienna Conservatoire. He toured Europe, giving concerts with the violinist Brunislav Hubermann. They appeared at the Albert Hall. He was 59 when he died.

The family had lived in Sweden between the wars. "Unfortunately, my mother had a tremendous longing to go back to Berlin. It was a great mistake." Her father had organised his daughters' escape with the help of Tessa Rowntree, of the York Quaker family, who risked her life to help artists and musicians. Mrs Gill recalled her last memory of her father at the main station in Prague: "Nazis were everywhere. I gave my father a hurried goodbye. He fully expected to be reunited with us.

"We made a miraculous escape by train. It was a precarious journey. The train stopped on the way. Nazi officials searched everything. We hadn't got proper passports. Our documents weren't valid.

"Tessa talked to the Nazi official. One of the officials looked at the passports and disappeared with them. He looked grim. We thought we'd be arrested. But he returned them. Nothing was said. I think he did it as an act of mercy."

Guests grit their teeth at colonial banquet

FROM JONATHAN MIRSKY IN HONG KONG

THE movers and shakers in Hong Kong were assured by John Major last night that even after 1997, when the colony has become a part of the People's Republic of China, "the United Kingdom will be with you in the future as in the past .. you will not face the future alone".

It was the last thing a substantial number of the 160 guests at a private banquet in the ballroom of Government House wanted to hear. They were the tycoons and chief executives who are now members of the Peking-appointed Preparatory Committee, drawing up plans for the future regime.

The evening was a testament to colonial grandeur, with perhaps the grandest moment coming at the outset. The Prime Minister, the Governor and Mrs Patten filed past the tables, preceded by a piper in full Scottish regalia — a Chinese piper. When he reached the top table, instead of offering him a tot of whisky, Mr Patten presented the startled musician with an entire bottle.

The very richest tycoon of all, Li Ka-shing, once an opulent contributor to Tory party finances, now very near the Peking inner circle, was present. So was the Chief Justice, who not long ago told one of the top Communist diplomats here that Hong Kong's Bill of Rights was harmful to the rule of law.

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Consomme Royal

Rack of Lamb with Herb Crust Baked New Potatoes Stir-fried Seasonal Vegetables

Tulips Romanoff with Melon Sherbet & Clementine

Mocha Petits Fours

Sancerre Les Romains 1992

Chateau Cissac 1989

Piper Heidsieck Cuvee Brut

The banquet menu

Millions more to be given visa-free visiting rights

BY PHILIP WEBSTER, POLITICAL EDITOR

JOHN MAJOR is expected to try to meet one of the biggest concerns of Hong Kong residents by announcing today that they will not need a visa to visit Britain after the handover to China.

Two million Hong Kong Chinese, holders of Hong Kong SAR (Special Administrative Area) passports, would be able to travel freely without visas to Britain, giving them the same right as the 3.6 million citizens who are to have British national overseas status after 1997.

On the eve of what is certain to be a tense encounter with the Legislative Council, the Prime Minister and Chris Patten, the colony's Governor, dismissed claims by elected politicians that Britain was "selling out" the colony in the interests of enhancing trade with China.

Mr Major fiercely rejected a suggestion by Martin Lee, chairman of the Hong Kong Democratic Party, that he had given up his battle to persuade Peking not to abolish the legislature and severely weaken the Bill of Rights. Mr Patten said last night that Mr Lee's charge that Hong Kong was being betrayed for trade with China was absurd.

Mr Patten billed Mr Major's speech today to leading businessmen from Britain and Hong Kong as the most important anyone had made in the colony for a long time. He said he would underline Britain's continuing commitment to Hong Kong.

Mr Patten told journalists that not to grant visa-free access for colony residents to Britain could lead to "very serious economic repercussions. This is not about right of abode, it's about right of travel. There is no political downside and a good deal of commercial upside."

Cash shortage forces Irma's doctors to withdraw from Bosnia

BY ANDREW PIERCE

THE BRITISH doctor who brought Irma Hadzimuratovic, 7, and other young victims of the war in Bosnia to London in August 1993 is withdrawing his charity medical team from Bosnia because funds have run out.

Doctors and nurses at Child Advocacy International have agreed from today to work without salaries so they can continue to help chronically sick children in the former Yugoslavia.

Dr David Southall, who masterminded Operation Irma at the request of John Major, has only enough funds to pay for six more children to be flown out of Sarajevo to British hospitals. The charity will then end its association with the former Yugoslavia that began with Irma, a victim of a mortar bomb blast. Irma died 20 months later after 12 operations. Her father, who was at his bedside, said she had died happy.

Dr Southall, a trustee of the charity, estimates that up to 500 more children, many of them orphans living in bombed out houses, require urgent medical treatment from the West. But funds for charities have dried up since the ceasefire.

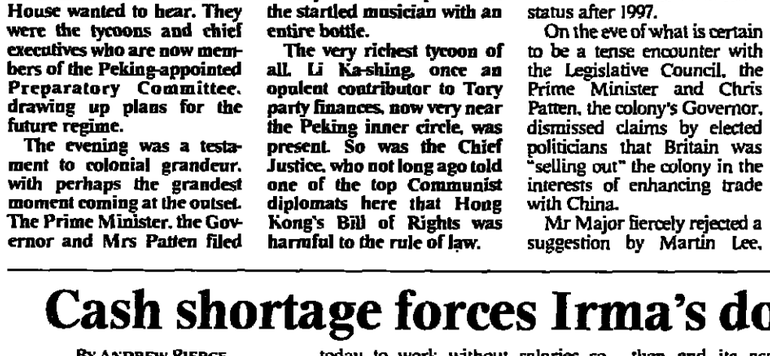
Dr Southall, Professor of Paediatrics at Keele University, has brought a further 23 children to Britain, out of the glare of the media spotlight, since Operation Irma. Most have returned, fully recovered from their injuries. He said last night: "The situation in Bosnia is now desperate. Many of the children we have seen and identified as in need of care will die or grow up with serious deformities.

"They will be in pain for the rest of their lives because the right medical help will not be given to them in time. The war may have ended. But it has not ended for these children."

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Night calls to GPs were not always a fact of life



MEDICAL BRIEFING

Dr Thomas Stuttaford

DOCTORS who work in large multipartnered practices are finding that their patients are becoming more difficult and time-consuming.

When I was in a two-man rural practice, our patients rarely disturbed us without good reason. Night visits had the advantage that there was time to examine patients thoroughly without being preoccupied by other visits I was supposed to be doing.

There were always exceptions. Some patients, for instance, found out that in the summer I was in the habit of gardening at 5am or 6am. It was a pleasure I had to give up as so many patients would interrupt my rose pruning by discussing their health "while I had a minute to spare". One early-morning patient, failing to find me in the garden, wandered indoors and sat at my breakfast table, waiting to catch me there.

Like all doctors I've occasionally been woken in the early hours to be asked to deliver aspirin, sleeping pills, tranquillisers, painkillers or even laxatives. It was comparatively common to be asked to deliver the "morning after" pill on your way to the surgery. One of my more remarkable calls was from two Cambridge dons who had hired a boat on the Broads for their honeymoon. On the third night, moored at the head of Thurne Dyke and with their marriage still unconsummated, they decided about midnight to consult the local doctor.

I walked nearly a mile along the riverbank to discover that there was no real emergency, only ignorance. These two academics did not know the facts of life. I explained, left, and later had a heartfelt letter of thanks, saying that the rest of the honeymoon had been a success.

For every inconsiderate call there were many instances of a patient's forbearance where an earlier summons would have been beneficial. One very old woman's husband died suddenly about 10pm just after they had gone to bed: she lay beside him all night and called me in the morning. "Since he was dead and you're not Jesus there seemed little point in spoiling your night."

The modern health centre, however therapeutically efficient, is run with larger partnerships and carefully controlled appointment systems. It allows doctors to escape from patient care and to have a life outside medicine but the price may well be less considerate patients.

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Spanish Popular Party reaps reward as voters turn against Socialists after 13 years in power



Felipe González and his wife voting in Madrid yesterday

Aznar claims poll win

FROM EDWARD OWEN AND TUNKU VARADARAJAN IN MADRID

IN THE most venomously fought Spanish general election since democracy was restored in 1977, the conservative Popular Party (PP) was last night claiming victory over the Socialists, who have been in power for more than 13 years.

Early exit polls gave the PP 40.2 per cent and 41.1 per cent of the vote, securing them between 160 and 174 seats in the 350-seat lower house of parliament. In the last general election in 1993 they gained 34.81 per cent, 141 seats. An exit poll conducted by the newspaper *El Mundo* and the television station Antena 3 predicted that the Popular Party might win between 165 and 176.

The Socialists were forecast to poll around 34 per cent, or between 120 and 135 seats, compared to 38.65 per cent, 159 seats, in 1993. The communist coalition, the United Left, was given 11 per cent or about 23 seats. Catalan and Basque nationalists, who had 17 and five seats respectively in the last legislature and who could hold the balance of power if the PP fails to gain an absolute majority, were predicted to obtain 14 and 6 seats respectively.

After hearing the results of the exit polls, Mariano Rajoy, the deputy leader of the PP, said at the party's headquarters in Madrid, with thousands of supporters cheering outside: "What's important at the moment is that there's been a political change in Spain and we are going to govern. But we'll have to see, as the night goes on, what the exact results are and the extent of that change."

Sunny weather ensured a large turnout from among the 32.5 million electorate, with a total of 74 parties fighting for 350 seats in the congress and 208 in the senate. In the southern region of Andalusia, 5.57 million were eligible to vote in simultaneous elections to the 109-seat regional parliament where the Socialists appeared to have held off a PP challenge in their traditional stronghold.

A Popular Party win would complete a cycle which began in 1994 with victory in the European Parliament elections and continued last year with success in the municipal and regional elections. This campaign has been marked by profound mistrust. The electorate was mainly divided between those who wanted a change — with the Socialists hit by numerous corruption scandals, the highest unemployment in Europe (23 per cent) and renewed Basque terrorism — and those who feared the old Right.

"Don't put your vote in the same sack as Blas Piñar [the old Fascist leader]," pleaded Señor González at an election rally in Catalonia, claiming, as did his party's controversial campaign video, that the PP is the child of the Franco regime.

Señor Aznar, 43, retaliated by citing "the 20 legal processes against the Government and its responsibility for three million unemployed". He also drew attention to Gal, the death squads, acting on the orders of the Socialist Government that murdered 27 Eta suspects a decade ago.

The relative importance of Jordi Pujol, 65, the crafty Catalan president, depends once again on whether he can act as the power broker. Rallying the Catalan nationalists, he said: "The votes we don't get reinforce the PP and the Socialists who won't be able to, and don't want to, defend Catalonia."

Newspaper editorials over the weekend all pleaded with the electorate to use their democratic right to vote, still considered something of a a novelty. The Catholic and monarchist *ABC* and *El Mundo* have both crusaded for Señor Aznar. Even *El Pais*, which has traditionally supported the Socialists, said the opposition had "the relative advantage" of being able to question "the credibility of the Socialists".



José María Aznar and his wife at their polling station

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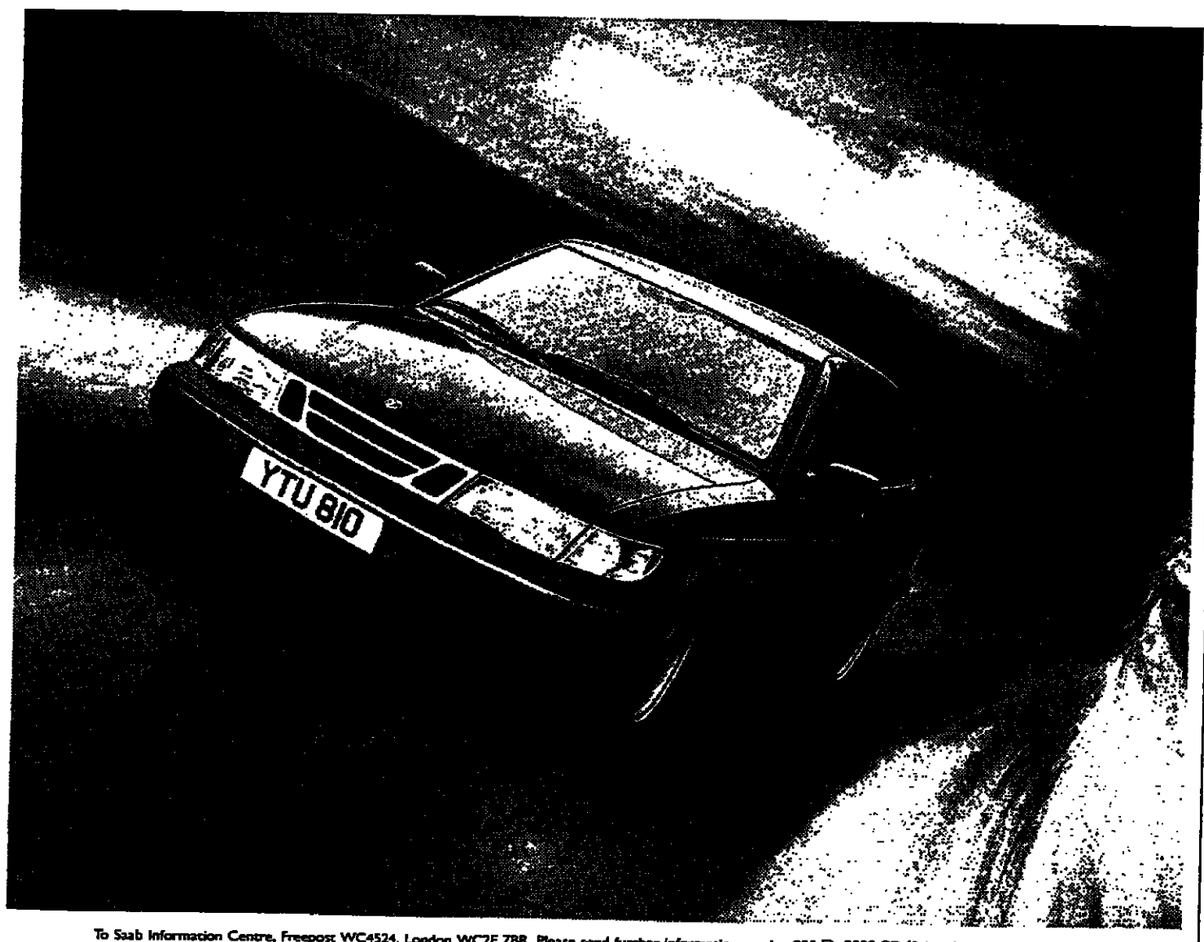
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Right signals harder line over Europe

FROM TUNKU VARADARAJAN IN MADRID

JOSE MARIA AZNAR is an embryonic Euro-sceptic in a land where the European Union is worshipped almost blindly. Britain and Brussels were watching yesterday's election like hawks.

Señor Aznar does not question the value of Spain's association with Europe. In fact, he has emphasised often the importance of the EU in consolidating his country's democracy, in the modernisation of its industry and institutions, and in the role it played in helping Spain to bury decades of cultural isolation under General Franco.

In his book, *The Second Transition*, published in 1984, Señor Aznar wrote that "it is essential to affirm that the European project must be compatible with the respective national projects of member states". He goes on to say that member states of the EU should not abandon their national interests in pursuit of an "unreal European project".

Observers expect Señor Aznar to oppose any move away from decisions by consensus in the council. Majority voting, he has declared, is not for him. His greater independence — he is in many ways an old-fashioned Spanish nationalist — is also likely to make Spain a more muscular player in Europe.

Ministers stake their shirts on majority rule

THIS WEEK IN EUROPE

Over the weekend, Europe's prime ministers mingled in Bangkok in their free silk shirts. Next weekend, European Union foreign ministers fly to Palermo, the Sicilian capital, for a huddle. The Italian Government will also hand out suitable gifts: bullet-proof vests perhaps.

As they beetle around the globe, the ministers are supposed to think about how the EU can make more of a mark in world affairs. Prescriptions for bigger, better joint European foreign policies were released last week by the French and German Governments and by the European Commission. This week the three Benelux Governments will chip in.

On paper, things look grim for John Major: his senior partners want, in the words of Hervé de Charette, the French Foreign Minister, "to do great things together". And they want to decide them by majority voting.

But all this argument on paper belongs to the unreal world in which ministers discuss Europe's "interlocking security architecture" without ever mentioning Bosnia-Herzegovina, Chechenia, or any of the places where neighbours have been killing each other since the end of the Cold War. European states still conduct foreign policies shaped and driven by national interests. Look no further back than the last meeting of EU foreign ministers. Greece, represented by the booming Theodore Pangalos, wanted to condemn Turkey's role in the two countries' row over a handful of rocky islets in the Aegean. Britain, represented by the milder Malcolm Rifkind, wouldn't agree. Stalemate.

The Greek media went bananas. The publisher of *Adesmeftos Typos* wrote that this was not the first time that "the complex-ridden British have displayed their preference for Ottoman law [a euphemism for homosexuality]. I was so angry that if my associates had not held me back, this newspaper would have come out with the front-page headline 'British queers!'".

Greece has a long history of bargaining inside the EU in pursuit of two things: money and the obstruction of Turkish interests. As Yugoslavia disintegrated, the Government in Athens singlehandedly stopped the rest of the EU from recognising Macedonia and was accused of allowing sanctions busters to supply Serbia through Greece. One senior European Commission official openly encouraged journalists in Brussels to call for Greece to be thrown out of the EU.

But the Greek problem is only an extreme version of the flaw in the idea that the EU can act like a diplomatic superpower. Big states have no intention of toeing an EU line if the policy chosen by the majority conflicts with their national interests.

Germany revealed this truth five years ago and no other EU government has forgotten the moment. Germany wanted to recognise the then new-born states of Slovenia and Croatia; 11 other countries, Lord Carrington, the European peace envoy of the day, and the US Government issued a warning that the move would be premature and could trigger a civil war in neighbouring Bosnia. By threatening to break ranks with its partners, Germany blackmailed everyone else into early recognition. The rest is history.

Foreign policies are affected by the clauses in the Maastricht treaty which spell out the rules of the "common foreign and security policy". Where the EU's 15 members get added value by lining up together — when negotiating a non-proliferation treaty, say, or talking to Russia — co-ordination machinery is there to help. But voluntary co-ordination has its limits. What France and Germany say they want now is a tougher system to make faster decisions and to ensure that everyone sticks to them.

But when the next emergency occurs, expect the states most closely concerned to ignore inconvenient clauses in the EU treaty. That's what Britain and France did over Bosnia.

GEORGE BROCK

هكذا في الأصل

Rightwingers raise fists in fury after another Jerusalem bus is attacked by suicide bombers

Israelis demand revenge for second bloody Sunday

FROM CHRISTOPHER WALKER IN JERUSALEM

JERUSALEM'S Jaffna Road, the scene of a second bomb attack yesterday, once more on a crowded number 18 bus, was renamed the "Victims of Peace Road" by right-wing protesters as anger among Israelis mounted. At least 19 people died in yesterday's attack — 23 had died there on the Sunday before.

Even before the charred single-decker bus was taken away, black flags were flying on lamp-posts close to the spot where the stench of death filled the morning air, and large pieces of hardboard used to replace shattered glass had been transformed into notice boards covered in protest messages and calls for revenge against the Arabs.

"What happened to 'Never Again'?", wrote Avi Ellen, a 23-year-old Jewish immigrant from Cleveland, Ohio, in a reference to the oft-stated pledge after the Holocaust that Jews would never again submit to mass murder inflicted against them because of their race and religion. Another message scrawled in Hebrew declared "Leah Rabin, we hate you" — a reference to the widow of the assassinated Prime Minister, Yitzhak Rabin, the architect of the peace process.

The hatred of the crowds, who were repeatedly driven back by heavily armed border guards in green berets and rows of mounted Israeli police, was directed against anyone suspected of supporting the continuation of peace with the Palestinians.

A large banner declared "We want war", while another contained the photographs of more than 150 Jews murdered by extremists since the peace deal was signed in 1993. "For every victim of this morning's horrible outrage, we should build ten new settlements in Judaea and Samaria," said Yehuda Toiv, a 23-year-old student and one of many religious Jews who converged on the site. He was using the biblical term for the occupied West Bank, large chunks of which the present Labour Government has returned to Palestinian control.

As workmen in the unrelenting rain covered the road in sand to cover the blood and oil, the venom of the crowd was turned against Shimon Peres, the Prime Minister, who arrived looking ashen-faced and was whisked away before he could be physically attacked by Jews who chanted the name of Yigal Amir, the assassin of Mr Rabin as though he were a saviour.

"Peres resign" and more ominously "Peres, you are next", the demonstrators chanted, many raising their fists in fury and some spitting on police who tried to remove them.

"For the first time since I arrived here from Moscow, I am frightened. My mother was walking past this spot minutes before the bomber blew himself up. Now I do not know what to do or where to go," said Igor Likhasser, who is one of nearly 600,000 Soviet Jews who have arrived in Israel since 1989 and now find themselves in the midst of a dirty terrorist war.

Soon after the bomb was detonated at 6.25am close to Jerusalem's main Post Office, Edward Abbington, the United States Consul-General, ran to see what had happened.

"It was a scene from hell," said the diplomat, whose residence is nearby. "It was really terrible, with bodies and body parts lying everywhere. I cannot understand how people can do this, tear up and mutilate people in this way. I felt a tremendous sense of anger at people who were killing people and also trying to kill the peace process."

Adding irony to the scene were some Jewish children in party costumes — they were dressed to celebrate the holiday of Purim, a Jewish festival marking the salvation of Jews from genocide in ancient Persia.

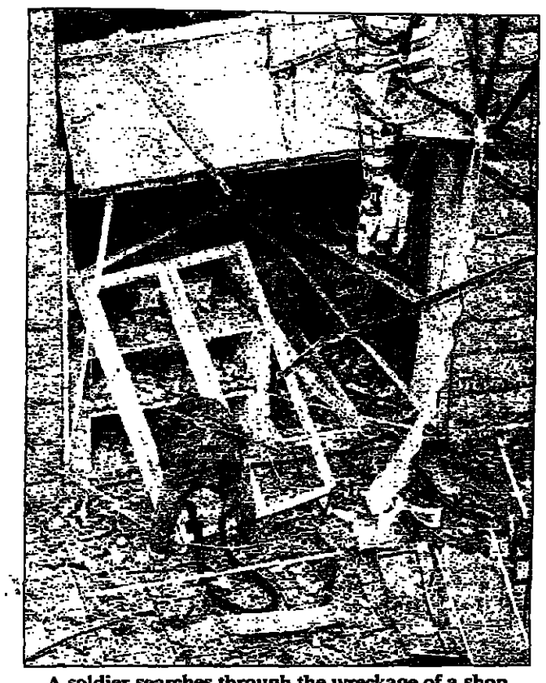
Immediately after the bomb, there had been panic, as soldiers stormed through the streets warning passers-by of a possible second attack or device. Then came the anger. "We gave them peace and all they give us are bombs. It cannot go on any longer," said a Jewish immigrant from Argentina, staring at the wrecked shop fronts.

Nearby the crowds, many of them armed, shouted "revenge, revenge" and looked for any passing Arab on whom to vent their fury.

The single piece of good news among the carnage was the luck of a girl called Dina. She was alive because, seconds before the explosion, she was allowed off the bus by the driver because she had been feeling sick.



Shimon Peres, the Prime Minister, is surrounded by security men as he visits the scene of the blast. Nineteen died, including the bomber


A soldier searches through the wreckage of a shop damaged by yesterday's bomb attack in Jerusalem

Peres election prospects dimmed

BY CHRISTOPHER WALKER

SHIMON PERES, the Nobel Peace Prize winner who is admired in the West and increasingly loathed by sections of the Israeli public, was last night fighting for his political life against what many commentators now believe are impossible odds.

At the same time, the chances of the Middle East peace process, begun at the 1991 Madrid conference, surviving Israel's May 29 general election were looking slimmer than at any period since the pact with the Palestine Liberation Organisation was signed in September 1993.

"We are in the same boat with Peres," one senior PLO official said. "If he goes, our peace deal goes too."

Even before yesterday's bomb ripped through a commuter bus, Mr Peres — one of the very few surviving political leaders with a record of having led his party to defeat in four general elections — had seen his 15-point opinion poll lead over his right-wing rival, Binyamin Netanyahu, slip to zero. A poll published 48 hours before the latest blast gave Mr Peres and Mr Netanyahu, the Likud leader, 48 points each.

In addition to the wave of anti-Palestinian and anti-peace sentiment caused by such attacks against innocent civilians, Mr Peres has seen his political standing damaged by the statesmanlike pose of Mr Netanyahu in the face of the horror and his skill in uniting the previously divided forces of the Right behind Likud.

Mr Netanyahu appears to have succeeded in wooing his two main rivals in the Right, Rafel Eitan and David Levy, to abandon their separate campaigns for the premiership. Mr Eitan, a former chief of staff renowned for having once publicly compared Arabs with "cockroaches", and Mr Levy, popular king of the influential Jewish community of Moroccan origin, have both been offered top places on the Likud list.

"I think the public could have lived with one attack, but if we are now talking about a series it is going to be devastating for Peres," said Shimon Shiffer, Israel's top political correspondent.

Although Mr Netanyahu has promised to continue the peace process on his own terms, which centre on the limited form of municipal autonomy offered to the Palestinians under the 1978 Camp David accords and repeatedly rejected by them, few expect the framework to survive if he comes to power.

World leaders fear for peace process

BY EVE-ANN PRENTICE, DIPLOMATIC CORRESPONDENT

WORLD leaders' revulsion at the bus bombing in Jerusalem was coupled yesterday with appeals for the Middle East peace process to continue.

Egypt and Jordan, former foes of Israel now committed to peace in the region, were among the first to condemn the attack. International outrage was countered, however, by support for the bombing by hardline Islamic states such as Iran and Libya.

King Husain of Jordan, who signed a peace treaty with Israel in 1994, said: "I am very, very deeply angry and utterly ... disgusted by this cowardly and inhuman crime." Egypt called on Israel and the Palestinians "not to submit" to attempts to undermine the peace process.

In Washington, President Clinton condemned the bomb, saying: "We share your anguish and anger at this terrorist crime."

A Foreign Office spokesman said: "Senseless incidents like this can only serve to strengthen the will of those committed to the peace process."

Mitterrand denial on 'second love child'

FROM ADAM SAGE IN PARIS

DANIELLE MITTERRAND has denied rumours that her late husband, François, fathered a second illegitimate child.

Since the former French President's death in January, dinner tables have been buzzing with gossip that Mazarine, the daughter whose existence he disclosed 18 months ago, has a step-brother as a result of another extramarital affair. The mother was said to be a Swedish journalist.

However, in an interview in today's *Télé 7 Jours*, the French equivalent of *Radio Times*, Mme Mitterrand says: "That makes me laugh. They're soon going to find 25,000 families for him. Poor François."

Her comments follow the publication of her autobiography, *En Toutes Libertés*, in which she gives a frank account of her life with the man who was French head of state between 1981 and 1995, and whom she described as a "seducer".

In the interview with *Télé 7 Jours*, Mme Mitterrand said: "François is the father of my sons. I was his wife — loyal to him. As for Mazarine, she was her father's daughter, and that's all."

Mme Mitterrand is due to give a television interview this week.

Orthodox patriarchs fall out over future of Church

FROM RICHARD BEESTON IN MOSCOW

THE two most influential leaders in the Orthodox Church are locked in a power struggle that could lead to a schism in the ranks of the 170 million Orthodox faithful.

A simmering dispute over rival claims to the leadership of the Orthodox Church in Estonia has snowballed into an all-out confrontation between Patriarch Bartholomew I of Constantinople, the spiritual head of Orthodoxy, and Patriarch Aleksi II of Moscow and All Russia, the leader of the largest Orthodox Church in the world.

The two sides have suspended relations and experts claim that unless the rift is healed it could lead to the greatest upheaval in the Orthodox Church since Constantinople split from Rome in 1054.

The dispute has already taken on political overtones. Late last week, President Yeltsin sent a letter to President Meri of Estonia, warning him not to harm the interests of the Moscow patriarchate and its followers in Estonia.

The dispute broke out last week when Patriarch Bartholomew reinstated Constantinople's jurisdiction over the Estonian Church and appointed Archbishop Johannes, the leader of the Finnish Orthodox Church, as temporary head. The move, supported by the Government in Tallinn, was a direct challenge to the Moscow patriarchate which has had control of the Church in Estonia since the former Soviet invasion of the Baltic state.

Patriarch Aleksi retaliated when he presided at a liturgy but omitted to name Patriarch Bartholomew from the list of heads of the Orthodox Church, the first time Constantinople's spiritual role has been ignored in this way since Christianity came to Russia nearly a millennium ago. The Russian Orthodox clergy is now forbidden to celebrate liturgies with fellow Orthodox clergy under the jurisdiction of Constantinople. "Thus was attested the destruction of Orthodox unity, which had existed for centuries and which became a tragedy for millions of Orthodox faithful," Patriarch Aleksi said.

He is sensitive about the issue of Estonia, since he was born there and his father helped to subjugate the local Church under Moscow's rule during Soviet occupation.

Beyond the controversy over the status of the Church in Estonia is a far larger potential battle for the souls of millions of worshippers throughout the former Soviet Union. By his own admission, Patriarch Bartholomew is attempting to expand his influence over the Eastern Orthodox Church heartland, which was for decades tightly controlled by the Communist authorities.

For his part, Patriarch Aleksi is attempting to defend traditional areas of Russian Orthodox rule against a pro-independence tide running through the former Soviet republics.

The Russian Church is aware that if it loses Estonia, it could jeopardise control over far more important regions such as Ukraine, which boasts 7,000 active parishes.

For the time being, Moscow has suspended its relations with Constantinople and Helsinki and a decision to break formally the 1,000-year-old Orthodox alliance could be taken when Russia's Council of the Orthodox Church meets shortly to discuss the rift.


Aleksi: "A tragedy for millions of faithful"

Cup of cappuccino is the droit de signor

FROM RICHARD OWEN IN ROME

TO THE delight of espresso and cappuccino drinkers all over Italy, a court has ruled that the Italian office worker's right to a coffee break is sacred.

The test case was brought by Maurizio Tomassini, a draughtsman employed by the town council of Corciano, near Perugia. After 11 years in the planning office, Signor Tomassini was suspended last year "for being habitually absent from his office from ten o'clock to ten past ten without authorisation". It transpired that the council had demanded he submit a written request every time he felt the craving for an espresso in the local bar. When he refused "on principle", he was suspended.

Coffee plays a central role in Italian daily life and most Italians drink it standing at a counter in brief "pauses" during the working day. Coffee consumption is governed by arcane rules: for example, cappuccino is never drunk after 11am, while espresso comes in a variety of subtle forms, including *macchiato*, with a dash of milk, *lungo*, with a dash of hot water, and *coretto*, with a dash of grappa.

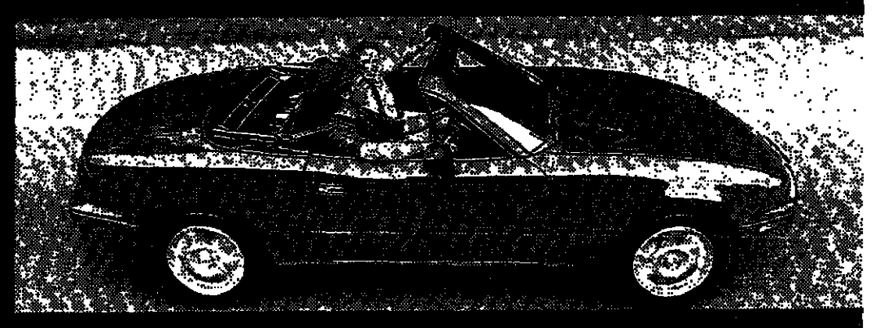
The court in Perugia, Umbria, which heard Signor Tomassini's appeal ruled at the weekend that drinking coffee during working hours "has by now become customary in all public offices". It further laid down that office workers popping out for a cup of coffee could be penalised by their employers "only if the breaks taken are too frequent and the time taken is particularly extended".

The verdict was greeted as a triumph by Signor Tomassini's colleagues. A second charge against him — that he doodled on his tracing paper instead of drawing building plans — was also thrown out. The judge said that any employee might make meaningless drawings in a moment of concentration.

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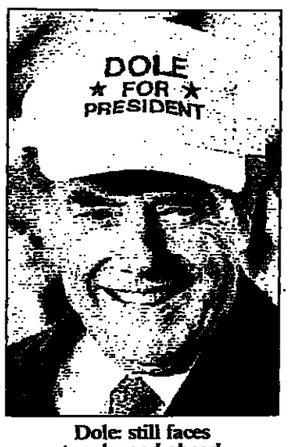
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Dixie state boosts Dole as he girds for Georgia battle



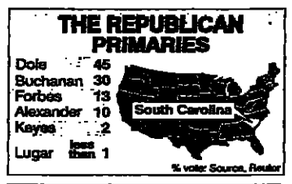
Dole: still faces tough road ahead

FROM MARTIN FLETCHER IN ATLANTA

ROBERT DOLE regained pole position in the race for the Republican presidential nomination yesterday, thanks to a decisive victory over Pat Buchanan in Saturday's crucial South Carolina primary.

The 72-year-old Senate leader romped home with 45 per cent of the vote in a contest he simply had to win after devastating defeats in New Hampshire and Arizona. Mr Buchanan, the populist insurgent, came second with 29 per cent and Steve Forbes, the multimillionaire publisher, third with 13.

Lamar Alexander, the former Tennessee Governor, won just 11 per cent in a Southern state next to his own and his candidacy is effectively over. He vowed to fight on but is short of money, has yet to come higher than third in any primary, and even Newt Gingrich, the House Speaker, told him to quit.



Mr Dole told jubilant supporters his win marked a "new beginning". It certainly gave him a big boost before tomorrow's eight "Junior Tuesday" primaries, and from this point on the whole nature of the race changes dramatically and greatly to his advantage.

South Carolina's primary was the last in which the candidates had time to "work" a state. From tomorrow there will be an unprecedented rush of 22 primaries in 21 days. Mr Dole is the front-runner and has the strongest organisations in almost every state, and his rivals will be hard pressed to devote enough time and resources to any one contest to upset him.

However, the race has already proved wildly unpredictable and Mr Dole is not out of danger yet. He generates little real excitement, and even he admitted that while South Carolina was "a big one ... we still have a tough road ahead".

Mr Buchanan claimed Mr Dole was "carried across the finishing line" in South Carolina by a party establishment that included the state's past and present Governors and 93-year-old Senator Strom Thurmond. David Beasley, the present Governor and born-again evangelical, certainly helped Mr Dole to eat into Mr Buchanan's support among South Carolina's religious Right. But Mr Buchanan insisted he could yet destroy Mr Dole's "hollow" campaign by winning Georgia, the biggest of tomorrow's contests, where he won 36 per cent against President Bush in the 1992 Republican primary.

The latest poll showed Mr Dole only eight points ahead of Mr Buchanan in the Peach State. He took a big risk by skipping a televised debate in Atlanta last night and does not have a party establishment to help him here. The Governor is Democratic, Mr Gingrich — a local congressman — must remain neutral as Speaker, and only two of Georgia's seven other Republican senators and congressmen have backed Mr Dole.

Mr Buchanan vowed to fight Mr Dole all the way to August's convention in San Diego. He is consistently attracting more than a quarter of the Republican vote, and said the party would "split asunder" and his followers would walk out of the convention if the eventual nominee refused to ban abortion or picked a pro-choice running mate.

Mr Forbes also pledged to fight on to the convention and seems willing to continue pouring his fortune into his campaign. He hopes to win giant New York state on Thursday, where only he and Mr Dole are on the ballot in every congressional district and he has been advertising heavily. Unlike Mr Forbes, Mr Dole faces a $37 million (£24 million) spending ceiling because he accepts federal campaign funds and is dangerously close to reaching it.

Mr Dole has now won four primaries and 77 delegates, Mr Forbes two contests and 60 delegates, and Mr Buchanan two contests and 37 delegates. A measure of the race's continuing volatility and the field's weakness is the increasing pressure on Colin Powell.

Republican Party operatives have been privately asking whether the popular retired general would agree to be drafted if none of the present candidates reached the convention with a majority of delegates. Intermediaries have reportedly sounded him out about becoming Mr Dole's running mate.

"There is no question the heat has turned up," General Powell's son, Michael, told the *Boston Globe*. "There are tons of people calling. It's started all over again."

William Rees-Mogg, page 16

Howard faces early challenge from Australian trade unions

FROM ROGER MAYNARD IN SYDNEY

AUSTRALIANS woke up yesterday to a new era of conservatism that could see the Liberal Party in power until well into the 21st century.

The landslide victory, in which the Liberal-National coalition won a majority of at least 44 seats in a 6 per cent swing against Labor, places a question mark over industrial relations, Australia's ties with Asia and the issue that has done so much to divide public opinion over the past four years — the replacement of the Queen as head of state and the declaration of a republic.

After nearly a quarter of a century in parliament, John Howard became Australia's twenty-fifth Prime Minister with the biggest majority in 21 years. Such was the scale of his triumph in Saturday's election that the political face of Australia may never be the same again. "While I will seek at all times unity and a common point of view, we have not been elected to be just a pale imitation of the Government we have replaced," Mr Howard said.

The Liberal leader will outline his plans in detail today, but there have already been murmurs of discontent from the trade union movement. Maritime workers said they would stage a big campaign of opposition to planned changes in government shipping policy.

John Combs, the national secretary, claimed unions would not be alone in an industrial war with the Government, although he hoped it would not reach that point. The wages accord that the unions had with Labor is to be replaced with a national move to enterprise bargaining. There is already talk, however, of 30 per cent pay demands and possible strike action.

While a return to the bad old days of widespread industrial unrest is unlikely, there is no doubt that industrial relations represents the new government's greatest challenge.

The coalition also made its position clear on Asia yesterday. Asked if he shared the view of Paul Keating, the outgoing Prime Minister, that Australia was part of Asia, Alexander Downer, who is expected to be appointed Foreign Minister, gave an emphatic "no".

He reaffirmed Australia's focus on Asia, but insisted that Canberra would not let its strong ties with Europe and the United States unravel. "Our most important priority is the Asia-Pacific region, but that does not mean we will be turning our backs on the US or European Union," he said.

The Keating camp began to pick up the pieces yesterday as an inquest began into what went wrong. Eight ministers, almost a third of the former Cabinet, lost their seats and Mr Keating conceded that the electorate had grown tired of Labor after 13 years in power.

"I think there was always an underlying view that the Government had been in office a long time," he said.

Barry Jones, Labor's federal president, was more specific. He claimed that the party had been living on borrowed time since 1993. He admitted that the Liberal-National coalition's wide appeal this time was because it offered a spell of "comfort and relaxation", a break from the emphasis on reform and a pledge not to take on any great challenges. Mr Jones added that voters had judged Labor too harshly.

Today the search will begin for a successor in the Labor Party to Mr Keating, who will not only stand down as leader but also as a member of parliament.

The most likely candidate is Kim Beazley, his deputy, but the result in his marginal Western Australian constituency was still in doubt last night, and there was a strong possibility that he might lose his seat.

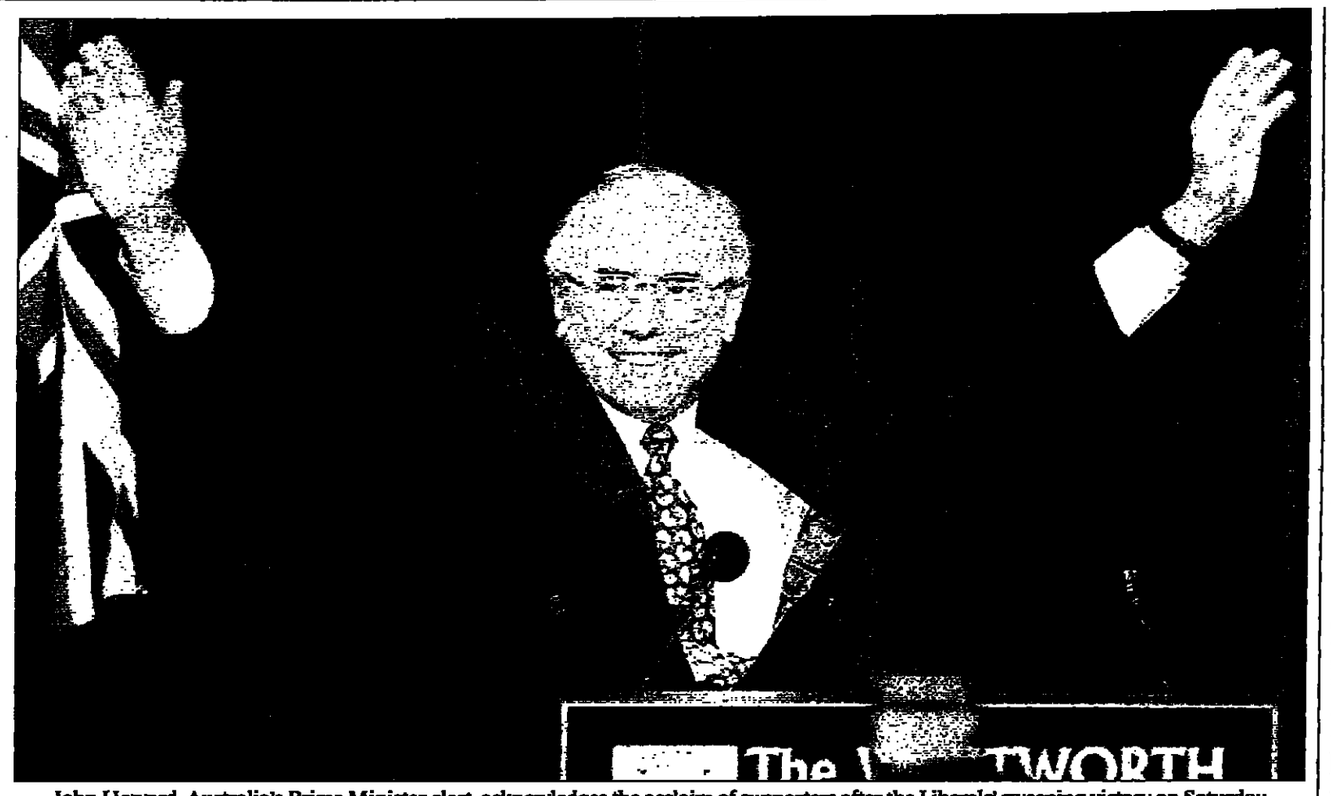
Other contenders are Gareth Evans, the outgoing Foreign Minister, and Simon Crean, a former union official.

Leading article, page 17

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Liberals	Nationals	Labor	Independent
72 seats (was 50)	18 seats (was 16)	46 seats (was 79)	4 seats (was 2)

Another eight seats undecided in House of 148 seats
Democrats and Greens hold balance in Senate



John Howard, Australia's Prime Minister-elect, acknowledges the acclaim of supporters after the Liberals' sweeping victory on Saturday


Keating: departure may help republican cause

Republic debate goes on the back-burner

BY ROGER MAYNARD

PAUL KEATING'S ambition that the Sydney Olympic Games in 2000 would be opened by Australia's first President has died with his election defeat.

But the man who championed an Australian republic for the past four years may do more to boost the cause by leaving politics than if he had stayed in power, republican campaigners said yesterday.

Thomas Keneally, the author and a founder of the Australian Republican Movement, said the Keating factor had worked against the campaign to end constitutional ties with Britain.

Australians for a Constitutional Monarchy were overjoyed by Mr Howard's victory. "There will now be proper consultation with the people of Australia," Kerry Jones, the director, said.

The republican debate will be on the back-burner under the Liberals, but Mr Howard, a monarchist, says he will accept the will of the people and has agreed to a national convention.

WORLD SUMMARY

Turkish leaders sign deal

Istanbul: The two parties of Turkey's Centre-Right yesterday signed a coalition deal which they said would govern Turkey into the next century (Andrew Finkel writes).

Tansu Ciller of the True Path Party and her once bitter rival, Mesut Yilmaz of the Motherland Party, have effectively excluded from power the Welfare Party, the pro-Islamic group which secured the most seats at an election last year. Mr Yilmaz will serve as Prime Minister until the end of the year when Mrs Ciller will take over for two years. Mr Yilmaz will have a final year in office, and the fifth year will be under a True Path leader.

Denktas has heart attack

Nicosia: Rauf Denktas, 72, the veteran Turkish Cypriot leader, was in intensive care last night after suffering a heart attack on the eve of a determined European Union effort to solve the Cyprus problem (Michael Theodoulou writes).

The initiative was already in trouble after Mr Denktas disclosed that some of the more than 2,000 Greek Cypriots missing since the 1974 Turkish invasion had been killed by Turkish Cypriot militias. Some Greek Cypriots called for Mr Denktas to be tried as a war criminal.

'Death squad' trial opens

Durban: Dark secrets of the apartheid era may be disclosed when the trial begins today of Magnus Malan, the former Defence Minister, and other high-ranking military and intelligence officers accused of organising death squads to wipe out opponents of white rule. General Malan, 66, and 19 others face a lengthy Supreme Court trial. The trial centres on the massacre of 13 people in the Zulu heartland of KwaZulu/Natal province in 1987. *(Reuter)*

Killer linked to Tyrol extremists

Rome: Police said Ferdinand Gamper, who died in a police siege at a farmhouse near Merano in north Italy's Alto Adige on Friday, committed five murders in the past month (Richard Owen writes). Gamper had links with Ein Tirol, an extreme group fighting for independence for the region, which is still known to German-speaking inhabitants as South Tyrol.

French author dies aged 81

Paris: Marguerite Duras, the writer, died at her home in Paris, friends said. She was 81. Duras won the Prix Goncourt in 1984 for *L'Amant* (The Lover), decades after winning public acclaim for her work. She also wrote the screenplay for the film *Hiroshima Mon Amour*. *(Reuter)*

Obituary, page 19

Simpson detective's racism was 'fantasy'

FROM GILES WHITTELL IN LOS ANGELES

THE "genocidal" racism of a detective at the heart of the O.J. Simpson trial may have been largely a fantasy invented to help a struggling screenwriter, investigations have revealed.

Tapes of an ugly diatribe by Detective Mark Fuhrman against blacks and Hispanics formed a key part of Mr Simpson's defence against murder charges last year. Johnnie Cochran, the defence lawyer, described Mr Fuhrman as a "perjuring, genocidal racist", but an inquiry has found he had several close friends who were black.

Mr Fuhrman seemed an ideal prosecution witness. Then private investigators working for the Simpson defence tracked down recordings of interviews he gave in the 1980s to a South Carolina screenwriting professor in which he used the word "nigger" 40 times and said blacks should be lined up against a wall and shot.

It appears the rantings were those of a troubled mind pandering to the preconceptions of an interviewer, according to psychiatrists questioned by *The New York Times*. Mr Fuhrman has declined to comment on the tapes because he is due to give evidence in the civil lawsuit against Mr Simpson.

Chinese rocket killed 6

FROM JAMES PRINGLE IN PEKING

A FAMILY of six Sichuan peasants was killed when a Chinese rocket carrying an American communications satellite exploded last month because of a defective guidance system, the official Xinhua news agency reported.

According to the agency, a Long March 3B rocket carrying a satellite for the Washington-based Intelsat veered off-course just two seconds after lift-off from the Xichang space centre on February 15. After 22 seconds its nose hit the ground and exploded, destroying the satellite.

At the time there was a news blackout, designed to conceal from the 1.2 billion Chinese, as they neared the lunar new year festival, that the launch programme had suffered a reverse. State television and radio reported the casualties for the first time on Saturday night.

An investigation showed that damage to the launch centre was minimal, indicating that the programme could be resumed soon.

Cuban exile pilots brave storms to drop wreath for fallen comrades

FROM DAVID ADAMS OVER THE STRAITS OF FLORIDA

IT WAS no ordinary funeral, more like a prayer circle in the sky. There were no bodies or caskets, just an orange flare that marked the spot in the sea below, about 21 miles northwest of Havana, where US officials say two light planes were shot down a week earlier by a Cuban MiG fighter.

Flying low over choppy seas and dodging dark clouds, Cuban exile pilots paid their last respects at the weekend to the four dead fliers, all members of the Miami-based Brothers to the Rescue.

"Our hearts are relieved," said José Basulto, founder of the Brothers group, moments after dropping a wreath into the sea from 500ft. "We have come back and said our prayers for our brothers."

As eight exile planes flew in a wide "racetrack formation" around the flare, a Catholic priest on Señor Basulto's plane read a eulogy. "We bless these waters, the grave of so many of our brothers," he said. He also recited a poem, *The Day I Left (Cuba)*, written by one of the victims, Pablo Morales, a young rafter who was rescued by the Brothers in 1992.

Three US Coast Guard ships patrolled the waters below, marking a "goal-line" that the exile pilots were instructed not to cross. But the most hostile element was the weather, as rough seas kept a flotilla of 35 boats from reaching the site and forced a dozen other planes to turn back.

In Miami, 60,000 exiles congregated at the Orange Bowl stadium to hear Madeleine Albright, the US Ambassador to the United Nations, pay tribute to the dead men.

The rally revived memories of the Orange Bowl speech President Kennedy made after the failed Bay of Pigs invasion of Cuba in 1962. Kennedy was presented with a Cuban flag which he promised to return to a "free Cuba".

In the ensuing 30 years hundreds of thousands of Cubans have fled across the 90-mile-wide Straits of Florida between Miami — home to 700,000 Cubans — and the island of 11 million.

In his first public comments since the planes were downed, President Castro told *Time* magazine that the Cuban air force pilots "did their job".

Although the Cuban military did not intervene in the memorial service, Señor Basulto did exchange a few words with Havana air traffic control. "We saluted the good people of Cuba, and we said we have nothing against people working for the Government, they are brothers too," he said. But the answer he received was less cordial. "They gave me some of the best of their new revolutionary Spanish," Señor Basulto said, in a reference to the expletives used by the MiG pilots after firing the missiles.

After Ms Albright's midweek comment, "That wasn't *cojones* [balls], that was cowardice," she was guaranteed a hero's welcome in Miami.

Recalling her own flight as a child from communism in Czechoslovakia, she said the dead men were "martyrs".

Signe's comment in the *Philadelphia Daily News*

India's dirty old man of letters wins right to unveil sex secrets

FROM CHRISTOPHER THOMAS IN DELHI

KHUSHWANT SINGH, 80, India's most famous drunkard and dirty old man, as well as its most popular and prolific writer, has won a case in the Delhi high court in which he was accused of insulting dead people by sharing intimacies about them in his book, *Women and Men in my Life*.

Mr Justice Singh, dismissing the complaint, said Indians "have a notoriously ambivalent attitude towards sex. On one hand there is the cult of *lingam* (penis), erotic temple carvings, the *Kama Sutra*. On the other, there is prudery and lip-service to the ideal of chastity."

This revelation made news throughout India, where the myth of sexual propriety persists against huge evidence to the contrary.

Neelam Mahajan Singh, the woman journalist who began the lawsuit, insisted that the book, with its "obscene" accounts, would corrupt readers. One supposedly corrupting passage described the sexual proclivities of the late artist, Amrita Shergil: "She was said to have given appointments to her lovers with two-hour intervals, at times six to seven a day."

Khushwant Singh has long cultivated a boozing, free-sex image that friends say is a façade. Shobha De, another of India's biggest-selling authors, who writes frankly about sex in her Joan Collins-type novels, said he was "gracious and hugely complimentary to women and that's about it. And I have never seen him take more than three drinks".

The judge noted that readers of the book would discover that Shergil believed in sexual athleticism. "I am sure had Khushwant Singh not come out with the objected passages no-one would have got the chance to enter and inhabit the real world of these persons."

The author observed in his book that, with her reputation, Shergil drew men to her like iron filings to a magnet. He had been no exception. "I eagerly awaited the day of seduction. It never came."

Not so for the late Malcolm Muggeridge, apparently, who in his early 20s spent a week with the painter in Simla where "she had reduced him to a limp rag". An exhausted Muggeridge reported later: "I could not cope with her. I was glad to get back to Calcutta."

The book has landed at a time of intense debate about morality and tradition. There has been a backlash against the new promiscuity.

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England lose to Pakistan as injuries mount

RUGBY UNION



29
Scotland point the finger at English forward

SCHOOLS SPORT



30
Teamwork puts cross country in first place

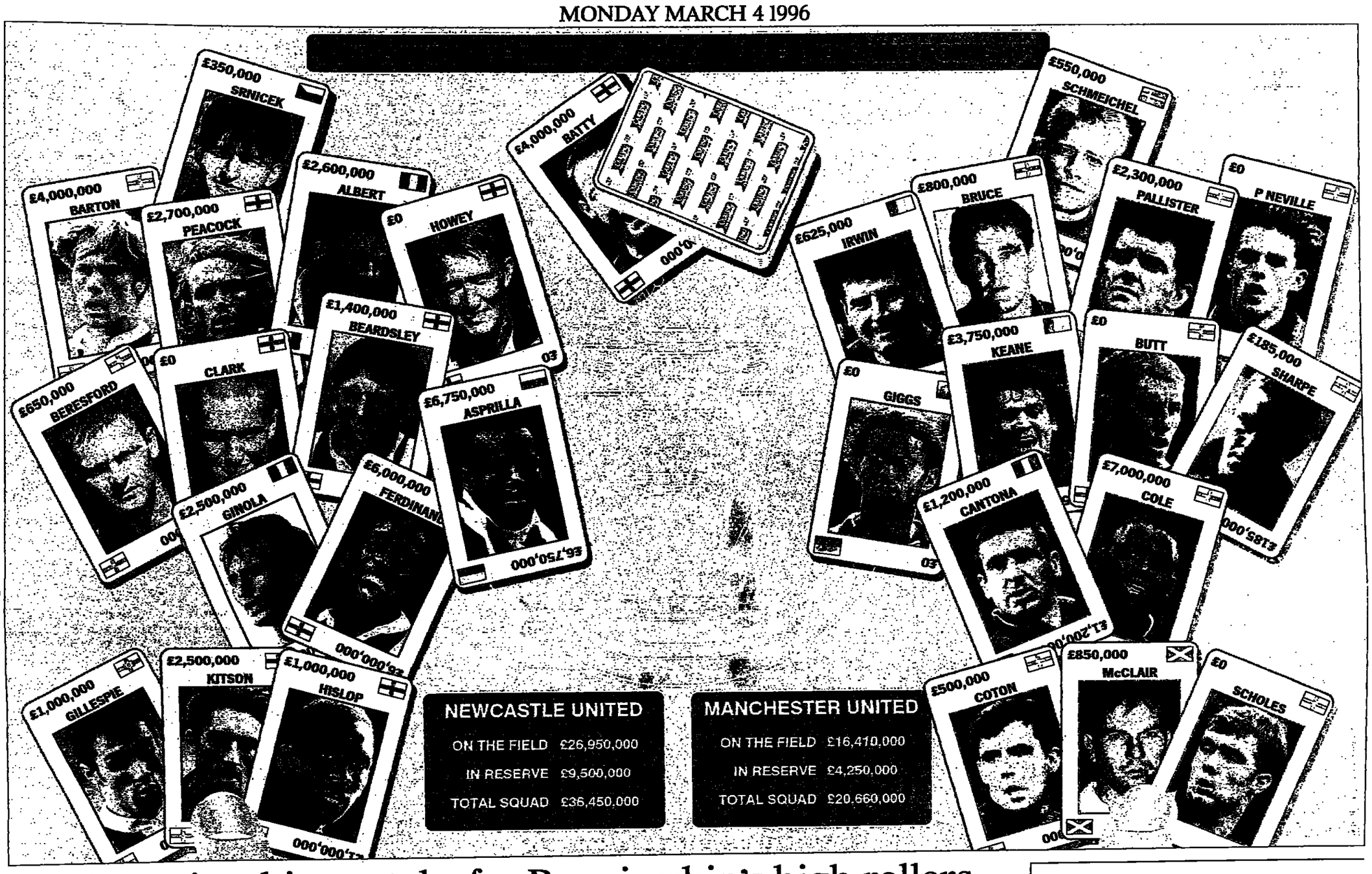
BOXING



32
Benn has second thoughts about retiring

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MONDAY MARCH 4 1996



Championship at stake for Premiership's high rollers

The £56 million showdown

By Rob Hughes
Football Correspondent

TONIGHT at St James' Park, football meets the ultimate in high finance. The game between Newcastle United and Manchester United, pivotal to the FA Carling Premiership season, involves opponents whose player-purchases amount to £56 million — and this is money actually spent, making no allowance for the price that the likes of Ryan Giggs, Nicky Butt or Steve Howey would fetch on the open market.

If you add Liverpool, the only other contenders for the title, to the pricing equation, it means an outlay between the three of £94 million. The gap behind those three is as large as Liverpool made it appear yesterday. This is the kind of spending that goes a long way to eliminating sporting chance. It explains why no team outside the Premiership is still involved in the FA Cup; and it is the reason why Uefa is preparing to sell the soul of the European Champions' League, by allowing the so-called leading clubs into the competition next season, whether they qualify or not.

The unfairness of this adds to the spice of the meeting tonight. Newcastle have to win the championship for the first time in 69 years in order to enter the arena of the Champions' League, the prize for which is likely to be no less than £15 million. On the other hand, strange but true, if Newcastle win tonight, and win the championship, it may not make a penny of difference to Manchester United's cash flow. The prize-money actually at stake from the Premiership is £897,600 for first place, £856,800 for second, and, because Manchester United were more popular on television than Blackburn Rovers last season, their share of the television pool came to more than Blackburn's.

Enough, for the moment, of balance sheets. We are looking tonight at young men driven to the extremes of their skills and temperaments. We know that there is a thin line between confidence and arrogance, a thinner one between competitive zeal and violent intimidation. We recall, when Manchester United beat Newcastle 2-0 at Old Trafford just after Christmas, how even Kevin Keegan admitted that his side lacked the commitment, the sheer hunger, of the Manchester club. Roy Keane surged from midfield in a manner that overpowered Robert Lee. Nicky Butt made flying tackles near the bone in every sense; tackles that were legitimate so long as his timing was spot on. The margin between controlled aggression and unacceptable violence had to be judged by a referee who was paid just £300.

The result could hinge on one decision, affecting every pound spent, every effort, since February 1992, when Keegan met Sir John Hall, the Newcastle chairman, and fired the ambition of a club that was then destitute. Sir John is an entrepreneur who will not gamble his or the club's wealth without seeing profit. This, in time, may come from another market, the potential £1.5 million per game from private digital television channels. It may seem alien, but so, once upon a time, were foreigners; the rivals tonight possess players of ten nationalities.

Newcastle's ideal is a club of multi-sports, one that will require ethics of the highest order if it is to be wholesome and marketable.

Keegan has been Sir John's champion, his cavalier football has inspired everybody. Yet, in the past month, he has spent £11 million on two players, on the beauty laced with poison of Faustino Asprilla, and the bantamweight combatant, David Batty. Is he beginning to rationalise that greater force, a bending of the belief in pure talent, is necessary?

Was he last week defending the indefensible when he protected Asprilla from the accusations that flew as high as as a Colombian elbow? Keegan may say that club discipline is a private matter, just as Alex Ferguson, the Manchester United manager, did a year ago after Eric Cantona's assault on a spectator; but the game, indeed the business, is public. We must see and hear what is done to keep it within bounds.

Of course, the responses of Cantona, Asprilla and David Ginola are fascinating to us. They are men who play intuitively, close to the boundaries of art and, under provocation, cannot always control their emotions. By contrast, we have Les Ferdinand and Andy Cole, £6 million and £7 million apiece, whose competitive instincts need constant service in the field and arousal in the dressing-room. Cole, returning to Newcastle, is the X-factor tonight. At Old Trafford, he scored a wonderful and, lately, rare goal against the club that sold him, the club whose supporters will never forget the 68 goals in 83 games that Cole scored for them.

We have scarcely mentioned Giggs. He has just signed a personal deal with Reebok worth up to £6 million over six years. He is a team player, yet Jonathan Edwards, the Newcastle-based triple jumper, also has a sportswear sponsorship which, provided that he becomes the phenomenon of his sport, winning the Olympics and everything else, would amount to £500,000 over three years. On paper, this puts the footballer at 12 times the marketable value of the triple jumper.

It is all tied to the worldwide attraction of football in general, and Manchester United in particular. Tonight, at the sharp end, the drama is being played in a Toon where Steve Bruce, captain of the opposition, will remind himself that he once seemed destined to work in the Swan Hunter shipyard. There are no longer jobs at Swan Hunter; and Bruce is worldly enough to appreciate that he is now in a millionaires' game instead of sharing the unemployment queue with people in Newcastle, his home city.

Leading article, page 17

TOP OF THE TABLE

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Newcastle	27	19	4	4	52	25	61
Man Utd	28	17	6	5	55	29	57
Liverpool	28	16	7	5	58	24	55
Aston Villa	28	14	7	7	39	24	49

DIY Burnett

THREE goals in the first eight minutes gave Liverpool victory against Aston Villa at Anfield yesterday. The result took Liverpool, who are third, to within two points of Manchester United and within six of Newcastle United.

Report, page 25

Newcastle United

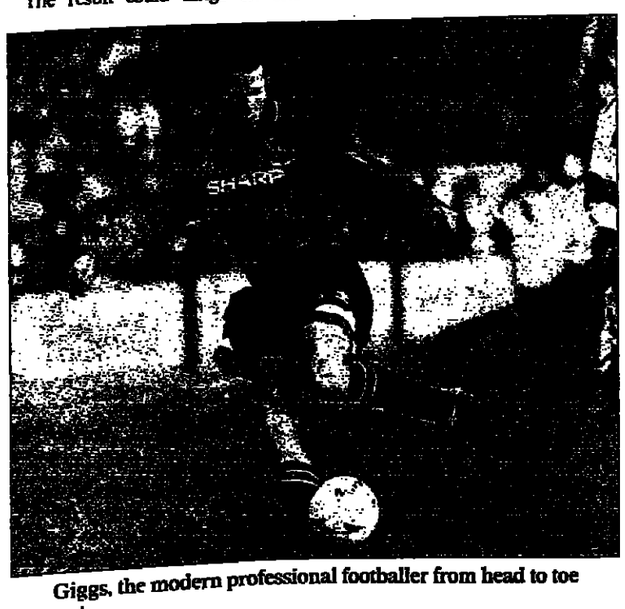
Today: Manchester United (h). Mar 9: Nottingham Forest (a). Mar 16: West Ham United (h). Mar 23: Arsenal (a). Apr 1: Liverpool (a). Apr 6: Queens Park Rangers (h). Apr 8: Blackburn Rovers (a). Apr 13: Aston Villa (h). Apr 27: Leeds United (a). May 4: Tottenham Hotspur (h). To be arranged: Southampton (h).

Manchester United

Today: Newcastle United (a). Mar 9: Leeds United (h). Mar 16: Queens Park Rangers (a). Mar 24: Tottenham Hotspur (h). Mar 30: Arsenal (h). Apr 6: Manchester City (a). Apr 8: Coventry City (h). Apr 13: Southampton (a). Apr 27: Nottingham Forest (h). May 4: Middlesbrough (a).

Liverpool

Mar 9: Arsenal (a). Mar 16: Chelsea (h). Mar 23: Nottingham Forest (a). Apr 1: Newcastle United (h). Apr 6: Coventry City (a). Apr 8: West Ham United (h). Apr 13: Everton (a). Apr 27: Middlesbrough (h). May 4: Manchester City (a). To be arranged: Wimbledon (h).



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Let us in on the secrets of wired-up referees



MATTHEW BOND

TV ACTION REPLAY

Saturday afternoon got off to what even the charitable would describe as a curious start, with Bill McLaren retelling the story of one of the "great lighthooses" of Scottish history, Robert the Bruce. McLaren finished the inspirational tale of Bruce, Bannockburn and the patient spider, with a question — and a dreadful pun. "Will Robert the Loose emulate his ancient kinsman?"

Four and a quarter tortuous hours later came the answer — *no*. Richards the Lionheart had seen to that. But as Rob Wainwright, bloodied and bowed, led his dejected troops from Murrayfield, it was possible to reflect that the afternoon had not been entirely wasted.

We had discovered, for instance, that Steve Rider has a sense of humour. Not just the easy-going wit that gets him through everything that the *Grandstand* schedule can throw at him, such as Doddie Weir's Vietnamese pot-bellied pig, but a really wicked streak that the BBC anchor-man had previously kept hidden. Its unveiling came during a pre-recorded interview with Will Carling, the England captain.

It is one of the curious facts of media life that as Carling's public profile has risen ever higher, his interviews about rugby have grown correspondingly duller. There is a sense that a certain subject is being avoided. But that does not mean he cannot be teased. As the pre-match interview followed its predictable path, Rider paused, gave that encouraging smile and began:

"Lay one thing to rest for us. Will ..." Carling shifted uneasily. "Or, at least, put it in perspective ..." The stare suddenly became a don't-you-dare glare. "Your relationship with ..." Yes, yes — I swear I could hear the cheers from my local pub urging Rider on. "With ..." Go on, Steve, go on. "With Jack Rowell ..." The groans were as loud as those that followed Gregor Townsend's abortive charge towards the England line.

The main event, however, was Murrayfield — billed as one of those great afternoon's of shared experience, a sporting stepping stone — along with the Grand National, Boat Race, FA Cup and Wimbledon — on the BBC's road to the Olympic Games. The fact that it so miserably failed to live up to expectations is hardly the corporation's fault.

In terms of picture quality, the coverage from Murrayfield was outstanding, with producer Grigor Stirling making full and effective use of all the cameras available, including the reverse angle camera (which explained more than one initially strange refereeing decision) and hand-held cameras patrolling both the touchlines and behind the posts.

Things were not quite so happy in the commentary box. The Calcutta Cup would not be the Calcutta Cup without McLaren and his knowledge of every player's middle name, but the veteran commentator must come to a working accommodation with one of the technical features of the modern game — the live audio link with the referee. Just because he has just been deafened by Derek Bevan's whistle, it does not mean that his commentary should be peppered with "loud blasts". At home, we can barely hear the whistle.

Nor does it mean that there should be regular periods of silence, while McLaren chuckles over Bevan's latest commands on the pitch. "He doesn't half tell them off" is not good enough. McLaren should, either tell us exactly what is going on (which is presumably its purpose), or turn the wretched thing off and get back to doing what he does best, i.e. the needful.

The alternative would be for the audio link to be extended to all of us. This would presumably find considerable favour with the West London reader who wrote in to complain that the pitch-side microphones no longer seem to capture the linguistic rough and tumble of the game in quite the way they used to. We should follow the more adventurous example set by the French broadcasters, he urges: "Surely the BBC ought to be willing to risk the occasional robust phrase slipping out?" Comments please — of more than four letters.

Faldo falters as Norman takes pole position

FROM PATRICIA DAVIES IN MIAMI

GREG NORMAN, the world No 1 from Australia, was poised to win the Doral Ryder Open golf tournament in Miami for the third time in six years yesterday.

By his own admission, Norman is some way short of his best form, but after completing his rain-disrupted third round yesterday morning, he shared the lead on 203, 13 under par, with Vijay Singh, of Fiji, two shots ahead of Joe Ozaki, of Japan, and the American, Michael Bradley.

Nick Faldo, the defending champion, was seven strokes behind, on 210, and the Briton needed a speedy start if he were to trouble the leaders. He did not get it.

The 1st, a 514-yard par-five, was playing more or less into a frisky breeze, and Faldo, who claims to hit the ball 20 yards further with his new, hi-tech Mizuno T-Zoid driver, certainly gave it a good belt off the tee, outdriving Loren Roberts, one of his playing partners, by at least 20 yards.

The official measurer reported a drive of 256 yards, and Faldo waited for the green to clear before hitting the driver again, a little right, into the deep bunker guarding the green. An indifferent splash-out ended 18 feet past the pin, the first putt raced four or five feet past, and the next hit the hole — and stayed out for a six. It was the sort of start to get the juices running in the wrong direction.

The odds must favour Norman, simply because this is a piece of turf that the flamboyant Australian loves. The Blue Monster, as the pride and joy of the Doral Golf Resort and Spa is called, may not be the terror it once was — the 18th used to be the toughest hole on the US PGA Tour, although last year not one of Doral's holes made the top 50 in monstrousness — but it rarely produces an indifferent winner, and Norman was champion in 1990 and 1993. If nothing else, symmetry demanded he win again.

Last year, Norman lost out to Faldo by a single shot after hitting his second into the water at the last and salvaging a bogey five. "It can be a bitch," Norman said, but yesterday, in the morning at least, with the breeze behind, the 18th, all 425 yards of it, was a pussycat.

Norman and Singh, who is using a long putter after winning two tournaments and over $1 million putting poorly last season, resumed on the 15th green, where the big Fijian holed from eight feet for a birdie two to move into the lead on 13 under par. Norman, who had travelled from his home by helicopter in time for his early start, levelled matters at the next when he holed from the same distance for a three.

At the 18th, he drove poorly, hitting the ball off the toe and nearly into the water. He had to hack out of thick rough, and then hit a nine-iron to eight feet from 142 yards, to come off smiling.

"I'm a little out of sync," he said, but he intended to adopt an aggressive policy in the final round, given how soft the greens were after all the rain. "I'll aim at the top of the flagstick," he said.

Jesper Parnevik, wielding a long putter on Singh's advice, was two shots better than Faldo, on 208, but Sandy Lyle and Bernhard Langer missed the cut. At least there was a European presence in the television commentary box — David Feherty, on leave from the European Tour, was working for CBS.

Leading scores 33

STEPHEN MUNDAY/ALLSPORT



Paul Lawrie, of Scotland, displays his trophy after achieving a one-shot victory in the weather-hit Catalan Open

Lawrie's long wait ends in victory

FROM MEL WEBB IN TARRAGONA

PAUL LAWRIE won the Catalan Open golf tournament at Bonmont yesterday without hitting a shot, but that does not mean that it was anything but hard work. Lawrie had led this wind-wracked tournament in the clubhouse overnight, and he endured a thousand agonies as he sat and watched and waited to see if anybody had the game to come through the field and overtake him at the death.

Fierce winds are a fact of life in this part of Catalonia, and they were up to their mischievous best on three of the four days of the tournament. They caused a total abandonment on Friday, and by Saturday morning David Garland, the tournament director, had ditched all his plans to play the event over 72 holes: even 54 was out of the question. So 36 it was, and Lawrie, who led after the first day with a 65, held his nerve to complete a courageous 70 to lead on 135, nine under par. Then came the really painful part. There were players who had still to finish their rounds yesterday morning who had the opportunity to take Lawrie on the line, and he could not do a thing about it.

David Howell, who had been a shot behind Lawrie in the dim and distant past of Thursday, seemed to be the best placed of the lot — he was six under par after nine and needed three more birdies to come home in 33 and force a play-off. Ultimately the young former Walker Cup player's inexperience was his undoing as he came home in 38 to finish with a 74 to leave himself five strokes shy.

Lawrie settled himself in front of the television and tried to look relaxed, and signally failed to do so. A surge from nowhere by Emanuele Bolognesi, of Italy, brought Lawrie's rear end inching towards the edge of his seat, and for a while the Italian gave the 27-year-old Scot a serious run for his money.

Bolognesi, who started at the 10th, had five birdies and only one bogey in a front nine completed in 32, then picked up another shot on the 2nd. He needed three more birdies over the last seven holes to tie, and he was on a roll.

Lawrie is a stoical character who does not allow himself wild excesses of public emotion, but he could not prevent the odd flicker of concern to cross features that are as craggy as the buildings of his native Aberdeen. He did not permit himself a small smile until Bolognesi put his ball in a bunker on the short 5th and dropped a shot.

The Italian was now four behind with only three to play; the tournament was won and lost. Fernando Roca finished second a shot behind Lawrie, with Domingo Hospital a further stroke adrift, one ahead of Andrew Sherborne and Bolognesi.

Last year Lawrie played feebly in the first half of the season and finished 107th in the money list, so his one target of getting into the top 50 in 1996 seemed lofty enough. After this victory, which earns him £50,000, he can start to aim just a little higher.

Canada fail to win Olympic reprieve

BY SYDNEY FRISKIN

THE disciplinary committee of the International Hockey Federation (FIH) found insufficient evidence at its meeting in Brussels yesterday to support Canada's charges of match fixing brought against India and Malaysia on the final day of the Olympic qualifying tournament in Barcelona on January 28.

The committee could not conclude, from the statistics, that the result of the match had been prearranged, even though the figures indicated that neither side showed any aggression.

Representatives of the three countries involved in the dispute stated their case at the meeting. The result of the match, a goalless draw, enabled Malaysia to qualify for the Olympic Games in Atlanta, leaving Canada high and dry. India had earlier qualified.

On the domestic front, Old Loughtonians collected six points to put themselves among the leaders of the first division in the National League, following up a hard earned 2-1 victory over Barford Tigers on Saturday with the 3-0 defeat yesterday of St Albans at Chigwell.

St Albans started with plenty of fire, but went into the interval two down. An early warning-shot was fired for Old Loughtonians by Feltham, who hit a post before Halls converted a short corner in the nineteenth minute.

Lee added the second goal from open play nine minutes later and completed the scoring in the last minute from a short corner.

The gloom deepened for St Albans, who showed signs of recovery early in the second half but missed the target with their best chances. With only three matches to go, they seem unlikely to avoid the drop.

The lead changed hands again with Cannock taking over from Southgate after a 1-0 victory over Teddington, Crutchley scoring a minute after the interval.

Southgate were held to a 1-1 draw at Canterbury, with Shaw scoring for Southgate and Surridge replying for Canterbury from a short corner in the second half.

Reading scraped through at East Grinstead. Osborn's goal from a penalty stroke in the last minute enabling them to win 4-3. Reading were down to nine men with Ashdown and Mark Hoskin suspended in the 54th minute.

Towers stay on track for a clean sweep

BY NICHOLAS HARLING

THE threatened clean sweep of basketball's domestic honours by London Towers took another step towards fulfilment yesterday. Already 7-Up trophy winners, the Towers added the Sainsbury's Classic Cola national cup to their sideboard, in a depressingly one-sided final against the holders, Sheffield Sharks.

The advantage of playing in front of the majority of their supporters in the Sheffield Arena where they had not previously been beaten, was not one that appeared to fill the Sharks with undue optimism.

Restricted to their lowest score of the season by English opponents, they lost 70-58 and apart from one brief spell of 32 seconds when they led for the only time, always seemed to be in danger of relinquishing their grip on the first half of the double they captured last season.

So ill-equipped were the Sharks to deal with the all-round power of the Towers, that the winners never needed to be at their best. Indeed Kevin Cadle, their coach, was hardly unstinting in his praise. "The shooting of both teams was atrocious," he said, "and defensively, there is still another level which we can reach."

It was significant, nevertheless, that Martin Henlan should receive the award for most valuable player for it was at close quarters that the tie was won and lost. "It was the last thing I expected," the 6ft 10in centre said.

However, it was Henlan's desperate pursuit of the rebounds, allied to the efforts of Neville Austin and Roger Dulhaney, that increased the task of Roger Huggins and Todd Cauthorn for the Sharks.

Fortunately for the Sharks, Huggins scored frequently with his jump shots in the first half, otherwise they would have been beaten out of sight by half-time. Normally prolific from long-range, the Sharks succeeded with only one three-pointer, from Cauthorn, right on the final buzzer.

Two three-pointers for the Towers had come from Steve Bucknall, whose dexterous passing dramatically influenced the outcome. Showing no signs of the groin strain that had kept him out of the England game in Moscow four days earlier, he was a veritable master grafter, providing most of the passes for Tony Windless and Danny Lewis that took London clear in an 18-2 streak either side of the interval.

Marsden forces Hightown to lie low

BY ALEX RAMSAY

AFTER three months without a competitive outdoor match, it stood to reason that Hightown would be a little rusty when they took to the hockey field on Saturday at the start of a hectic weekend of league and cup ties. The degree of their fall from grace, however, took everyone by surprise.

As league leaders, they were hoping to resume their challenge for their first premier division title with victory over fifth-placed Clifton. Unfortunately, they had not accounted for Lorraine Marsden and Lucy Culliford, who both hit the target in a 2-1 reverse.

Hightown ought to have known better. Until this season, Marsden was a regular in their outdoor squad and still plays for Hightown indoors. Not that the Liverpool team were putting up too much of a struggle, looking lacklustre from start to finish. Jackie Crook managed an equaliser midway through the second half with a penalty stroke, only for Culliford to score the winner.

Surely, though, Hightown were bound to do better in the AEWHA Cup? They were, after all, the holders and they had never lost to Doncaster. But again they went down to a supposedly lesser side, again by 2-1.

Doncaster were on a high, having hammered five goals past Bracknell on Saturday in a bottom-of-the-table encounter and, facing a distinctly out-of-sorts Hightown on Sunday, they went 2-0 up in the second half, both goals coming from Claire Ferguson. Only then did supposedly stronger side get going but by the time Yana Williams pulled on back with three minutes to go, it was far too late.

Hightown were not alone in their misery. Trojans, storming away at the top of division one and last year's cup finalists, were edged out of the competition by Clifton yesterday. Holding the premier division side to a 1-1 draw at full-time they were beaten 3-1 in the penalty shoot-out.

Not even that was as bad as the fate of Ealing. Lurking in the lower reaches of divison two, they faced non-league Winchester in the cup and were promptly beaten 3-1.

SPORT IN BRIEF

Oxford maintain their domination

OXFORD continued their dominance of the University women's rugby union fixture in beating Cambridge for the eighth consecutive time, 32-7, at Iffley Road yesterday (a *Special Correspondent* writes). A superlative first-half performance put Oxford into a 27-0 lead at half-time, and the match was as good as won. Oxford were indebted to their pack, who rucked and mauled with impressively good technique, reflecting the input of their male Blue coaches. Heather Lockhart, who scored three of the home side's six tries from the flank, was outstanding.

Outside, although Cambridge have a dangerous runner in Justine Curgenven at centre, it was Jo Hudson, the Oxford captain, who led by example from full back and who was influential in setting up positions from which her side could take advantage.

SCORERS: Oxford: Tries: Lockhart (3), Cribb, King, Umary. Conversions: Cribb. Cambridge: Try: Curgenven. Conversion: Hawker.

Warriors battling on

ICE HOCKEY: Newcastle Warriors, although beaten 8-4 by Fife Flyers, maintained their challenge for a play-off place because their nearest rivals, Milton Keynes Kings, lost 8-7 at home to Nottingham Panthers. With a home game to come against the bottom club, Slough Jets, the Warriors will surely do enough to qualify. The one remaining place in the promotion/relegation play-offs was filled when Guildford Flames gained their anticipated win over Peterborough Pirates which meant that Paisley Pirates, who won 6-4 at Medway, cannot qualify. The eight teams involved in the championship play-off will be divided into two groups with the top two in each group qualifying for the semi-finals.

Ivanisevic wins again



TENNIS: Goran Ivanisevic, right, of Croatia, continued his impressive run when he beat Marc Rosset, of Switzerland, 6-3, 7-6 to win the Italian indoor tournament in Milan yesterday. It was Ivanisevic's third title this year, after his successess in Dubai and Zagreb last month. Ivanisevic, 24, said: "I'm playing just unbelievable tennis. I've found consistency and that's what is making the difference."

Di Martino prevails

FENCING: France won the London round of the men's epée World Cup as Jean François di Martino took the gold medal when Roy Sung Yang, of Korea, retired with cramp while di Martino led eight hits to three. Di Martino was in confident form and had looked the likely winner. Of the Britons, Quentin Berriman, the national champion, finished eightieth after losing 15-13 to Olivar Lücke, of Germany.

Living dangerously

FOOTBALL: A goal from Caroline McGloin two minutes before the end of extra time was enough to take Croydon through to the semi-finals of the UK Living Women's FA Cup, where they will meet Ipswich Town. Croydon's quarter-final against Doncaster Belles yesterday was goalless at full-time, and appeared to be heading for a replay when McGloin struck late in the second period of extra time.

McRae in the clear

MOTOR RALLYING: Colin McRae, of Great Britain, dominated the opening ten stages of his first Rally of Thailand, finishing the first day 46 seconds clear of Kenneth Eriksson, his Subaru team-mate. "Apart from an intermittent misfire, we've had no problems all day and I'm pleased with our position at the end of the first leg," McRae, the world champion, said.

Easy for Appelmans



TENNIS: Sabine Appelmans, right, swept away Julie Halard-Decugis, of France, 6-2, 6-4, in little more than an hour yesterday to win the Generali tournament in Linz, Austria. Appelmans, of Belgium, the No 6 seed, had lost her two previous matches against Halard-Decugis, the No 3 seed, but needed only 32 minutes to win the first set, taking the first five straight games before letting her opponent score.

Jalabert jubilant

CYCLING: Laurent Jalabert, of France, won the Tour of Valencia. Mario Cipollini, the Italian sprinter, headed a mass finish at the end of the 95-kilometre first section of the fifth and final stage, but Melchor Mauri, Jalabert's ONCE team-mate, won the concluding 21-kilometre individual time-trial, confirming the domination of the ONCE team, which took the first five individual places.

Smith completes revival

CURLING: David Smith, the former world champion, completed his comeback yesterday, winning the Macallan Scottish championship by beating Hammy McMillan, the European champion, 5-4 in the final. The hard-fought victory earned Smith a place at the world championships later this month. He had failed to qualify for the Scottish championship last year.

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Holders romp to emphatic triumph after Smith and Atherton see good opening stand wasted

England ease Pakistan's progress

FROM ALAN LEE
CRICKET CORRESPONDENT
IN KARACHI

KARACHI (England won toss): Pakistan (2pts) beat England by seven wickets

ENGLAND'S credibility as a one-day team has never been so low. Their latest role seems to be as some kind of cricketers' mission, taking in opponents fallen on hard times and rebuilding their strength and confidence.

Pakistan were the beneficiaries yesterday, and a day that had begun with murky rumour of divisions in the camp of the World Cup holders ended with stirring soapbox promises that the cup can be retained.

Perhaps it will be, for a day in the company of England can plainly work wonders. Pakistan were wobbling after their resounding defeat by South Africa on Thursday. Theirs is a volatile environment, and the simmering unrest, internal and external, would have been brought smartly to the boil by another loss. Now, however, they can march boldly into India, where they have not played for seven years, claiming that they fear nothing about the country or the cricket.

It was easier to swallow this show of confidence than the apparent insouciance of the England management. Michael Atherton and Raymond Illingworth presented a united front, but their joint communiqué, stating that "a lot of good things came out of the game", was impenetrable. Victory would have been the only nourishment for this team, and there was not a single moment, at the business end of the game, when that seemed in prospect.

What made it such a grisly defeat was that it should have been avoided, or at worst jeopardised. The first half of the England innings yielded 134 runs without loss, the platform for a final total in excess of 300. The second half disintegrated, supplying 115 runs, nine wickets, and presenting Pakistan with a target of 250 that did not even require them to engage top gear.

In any sensible competition, the upshot of England's third defeat in three games against serious opposition would be a flight home, followed by the usual chest-beating calls for structural revolution. In this two-track tournament, England have another chance. Like a car failing its MoT, they have been deemed unroadworthy. But they can turn up again for a retest next weekend, and proceed as if none of this had happened.

Theoretically, they have landed in clover by finishing as the fourth and last qualifier from group B. They must meet the winners of group A in Faisalabad, and their opponents will not be Australia or India but Sri Lanka, who banked four points from forfeited games. Nobody should be sanguine about further progress, but it is a fact that, when this competition began, England would have expected to beat Sri Lanka six times out of ten.

The squad is likely to undergo further change before the quarter-final, after a hamstring injury sustained in the field yesterday by Neil Fairbrother. Nasser Hussain is the probable replacement, should one be granted today, and it is valid to question whether a player who has become as injury-prone as Fairbrother, and whose batting has declined with his fitness, should have been an original selection.

England, however, have not done much right on this trip. Even the decision to bat first yesterday appears, in hindsight, a howler. Wasim Akram, the Pakistan captain, said that he would have bowled first anyway "because it is better to chase runs on this wicket". One could see his point, though in fairness there seemed little wrong with Atherton's decision while he and Robin Smith were launching the innings at five runs an over. Smith, preferred to Alec Stewart, set the tone with a short-arm pull for six off Waqar Younis in the fourth over, and when Wasim turned to Mushtaq Ahmed to stem the flow, Atherton hit him out of the attack with refreshing purpose.

Mushtaq was withdrawn after conceding 39 runs in five overs, and it was the part-time leg spin of Salim Malik that broke the stand when Smith, by now feeling his calf strain and using a runner, chipped to mid-on. Even devotees of England collapses could see no obvious way they might squander this situation, but somehow they managed. Hick, losing his bearings against Sohail, was tamely stumped second ball, and when Atherton was bowled, making room to cut, England had lost three wickets for nine.

The remainder of the innings would be best glossed over but for another valiant contribution from Thorpe, who has scored 227 runs for twice out in the past four games. That nobody could stay with him was due partly to Mushtaq, who returned with a second spell of three for 14, and partly to the spineless incompetence that grips England in adverstity.

On the type of slow, sullen pitch that turns bowlers to thoughts of alternative careers, England's chance of victory now rested with Pakistan's penchant for self-destruction, but they did not oblige. Their left-handed openers, Sohail and Anwar, were savage on anything offline, and the required rate was achieved from the start. Richard Illingworth split them, but hardly threatened again, and as Atherton explored his options, with upwards of a dozen bowling changes, only Cork provided the necessary penetration.

The crowd went home happy after the local hero, Javed Miandad, batted briefly on his latest farewell to Karachi, and Atherton left the ground defiantly perky. "We will go to Faisalabad with more confidence than we brought into this game," he said. If only one could believe him.



Atherton loses his off stump to Sohail after sharing a 147-run stand for England's first wicket with Smith. Photograph: John Pryke

KARACHI SCOREBOARD

England won toss

ENGLAND

R A Smith c Waqar b Salim (113min, 92 balls, 1 six, 8 fours)	75
*M A Atherton b Aamir (126min, 91 balls, 6 fours)	66
G A Hick st Rashid b Aamir (5min, 2 balls)	1
G P Thorpe not out (93min, 64 balls, 3 fours)	52
N H Fairbrother c Wasim b Mushtaq (25min, 21 balls, 1 four)	13
†R C Russell c and b Mushtaq (10min, 7 balls)	4
D A Reeve b Mushtaq (9min, 5 balls)	3
D G Cork lbw b Waqar (4min, 2 balls)	0
D Gough b Wasim (21min, 15 balls, 1 four)	14
P J Martin run out (Saeed/Rashid) (5min, 4 balls)	2
R K Illingworth not out (2min, 1 ball)	1
Extras (lb 11, w 4, nb 3)	18
Total (9 wkts, 50 overs, 213min)	249

FALL OF WICKETS: 1-147 (Atherton 83), 2-151 (Atherton 84), 3-155 (Thorpe 3), 4-194 (Thorpe 26), 5-204 (Thorpe 32), 6-212 (Thorpe 35), 7-217 (Thorpe 40), 8-241 (Thorpe 48), 9-247 (Thorpe 51)

BOWLING: Wasim Akram 7-1-31-1 (w 3; 2 fours; 5-1-18-0, 2-0-13-1); Waqar Younis 10-1-45-1 (1 six, 5 fours; 3-0-16-0, 2-1-7-0, 5-0-22-1); Aqib Javed 7-0-34-0 (nb 3; 2 fours, 6-0-29-0, 1-0-5-0); Mushtaq Ahmed 10-0-53-3 (5 fours; 5-0-39-0, 5-0-14-3); Aamir Sohail 10-0-48-2 (nb 1, w 1; 2 fours; one spell); Salim Malik 6-1-27-1 (3 fours; one spell).

PAKISTAN

Aamir Sohail c Thorpe b Illingworth (70min, 56 balls, 6 fours)	42
Saeed Anwar c Russell b Cork (125min, 72 balls, 8 fours)	71
Ijaz Ahmed c Russell b Cork (113min, 83 balls, 5 fours)	70
Inzamam-ul-Haq not out (90min, 54 balls, 6 fours)	53
Javed Miandad not out (30min, 21 balls, 1 four)	11
Extras (lb 1, w 2)	3
Total (3 wkts, 47.4 overs, 216min)	250

Salim Malik, †Rashid Latif, *Wasim Akram, Mushtaq Ahmed, Waqar Younis and Aqib Javed did not bat.

FALL OF WICKETS: 1-81 (Saeed 39), 2-139 (Ijaz 26), 3-214 (Inzamam 29).

BOWLING: Cork 10-0-59-2 (w 2, 8 fours; 4-0-19-0, 3-0-14-1, 2-0-15-1, 1-0-11-0), Martin 9-0-45-0 (6 fours; 5-0-23-0, 2-0-15-0, 2-0-7-0); Gough 10-0-45-0 (5 fours; 5-0-25-0, 5-0-20-0); Illingworth 10-0-46-1 (4 fours; 5-0-29-1, 4-0-17-0), Reeve 6.4-0-37-0 (2 fours; 4-0-18-0, 2-0-13-0, 0.4-0-5-0); Hick 2-0-17-0 (2 fours; one spell)

Pakistan won by 7 wickets.

Umpires: B C Cooray (Sri Lanka) and S Venkataraghavan (India). Reserve umpire: K Parthasarathy (India).

☐ *Compiled by Bill Frindall*

Strong batting sees Sri Lanka gain easy win

BY MICHAEL HENDERSON, IN DELHI

DELHI (Sri Lanka won toss): Sri Lanka (2pts) beat India by six wickets

SRI LANKA beat India on Saturday with an ease that reinforced the general view that they can play a significant part in this World Cup and, at the same time, exposed India as a team with hollow legs. The crowd which whooped and hollered as Tendulkar made his second hundred of the competition was eerily silent before the end.

The victory means that Sri Lanka will now enter the quarter-finals as winners of group A and meet England in Faisalabad next Saturday. That is not a prospect that will cause them sleepless nights, for theirs is a team rich in batting and, unlike England, full of confidence.

India's progress is less assured. After beating West Indies they have now lost successive matches and no team of ambition endures that without a tremor of self-doubt. They are wobbling a bit and their inability to defend a score of 271 for three must disturb them. Tendulkar, who has made 424 runs already, cannot play teams by himself.

Sri Lanka have no Tendulkar but they bat well together. They beat Zimbabwe with a flurry of sixes, and 13 overs to spare, and reached their target in Delhi without needing the last eight balls of the innings. An unbeaten stand of 131 between Ranatunga, the captain, and Tillekeratne confirmed victory after three men had thrown away their wickets.

There was the most extraordinary start to the innings when Jayasuriya set about Prabhakar with a rare purpose. The left-hander took 22 off the bowler's second over, driving him out of the attack with four fours and a mighty six. When Prabhakar returned it was as an off spinner and he was treated with similar disdain by Ranatunga. His four overs cost 47 and he may now forfeit the all-rounder's role.

India chose to play Ankola, a fourth seamer, ahead of Raju, the left-arm spinner, and their bowling was so plain that Tendulkar had to bowl a full quota — as if he had not done enough on the team's behalf. Once Jayasuriya had established the tone, the runs simply poured, 82 in the first ten overs with the hundred coming up in the fourteenth. It was a dazzling performance and ensured that the rate required off the last 20 was a manageable five per over.

Jayasuriya's brutal 79, made from 76 balls, justifiably earned him the individual award. This really was a match-winning performance, and although he lifted Kumble to long on — the first of three wickets to fall in successive overs to the wrist spinner — Sri Lanka were never struggling to reach their target, so comfortably did Ranatunga and, in particular, Tillekeratne perform.

Tendulkar's hundred earlier in the day was but a memory as a foot-weary India team left the field, having learned a lesson. Tendulkar shared a stand of 175 with Azharuddin, matching the best by an Indian pair for the third wicket in one-day cricket. He hit an impressive five sixes in his 137.

To have a good chance of beating Sri Lanka, however, a team must first put 300 on the board. They may have played two fewer matches than other sides but they do not lack sharpness. If anything the loss of those games against Australia and West Indies has given them a sense of mission.

The game deserved a better setting than this ground, which is inadequate for the requirements of an international competition. Nor were the match arrangements any better. Ticket-holders were denied admission and so were men like Clive Lloyd, Wes Hall, and I. S. Bindra, the president of the Indian Board of Control. In addition, two Indian journalists were assaulted outside the ground by police officers.

None of this is surprising. Methods of accreditation to these games are so unreliable as to be worthless. An English journalist who turned up in Bombay for the India-Australia game walked straight into the ground, no questions asked. The BBC Radio correspondent, fully accredited, was jostled by a zealous policeman.

SCOREBOARD

INDIA

M Prabhakar c Gurusinha b Pushpakumara	7
S R Tendulkar run out	137
S V Manjrekar c Kaluwitharana b Dharmasena	32
*M Azharuddin not out	72
V G Kambli not out	1
Extras (b 4, lb 7, w 11)	22
Total (3 wkts, 50 overs)	271

A D Jadeja, †N R Mongia, A R Kumble, J Srinath, S A Ankola and V Prasad did not bat.

FALL OF WICKETS: 1-27, 2-93, 3-268.

BOWLING: Vaas 9-3-37-0; Pushpakumara 8-0-53-1; Muralitharan 10-1-42-0, Dharmasena 9-0-53-1; Jayasuriya 10-0-52-0; Ranatunga 4-0-23-0

SRI LANKA

S T Jayasuriya c Prabhakar b Kumble	79
†K S Kaluwitharana c Kumble b Venkatesh Prasad	26
A P Gurusinha run out	25
P A de Silva stumped Mongia b Kumble	8
*A Ranatunga not out	46
H P Tillekeratne not out	70
Extras (b4, lb9, w3, nb2)	18
Total (4 wkts, 48.4 overs)	272

R S Mahanama, H D B K Dharmasena, W P U C J Vaas, K R Pushpakumara and M Muralitharan did not bat

FALL OF WICKETS: 1-53, 2-129, 3-137, 4-141.

BOWLING: Prabhakar 4-0-47-0; Srinath 9.4-0-51-0; Prasad 10-1-53-1, Ankola 5-0-28-0; Kumble 10-1-39-2; Tendulkar 10-0-41-0.

Man of the match: S T Jayasuriya.

Umpires: C J Mitchley and I D Robinson

WORLD CUP DETAILS

Top four in each group qualify for quarter-finals. Two points for a win, one for a tie and no result

Teams finishing level on points will be split by the most wins, then on the result between the two, then net run-rate (NRR) — runs scored per over minus runs conceded per over

If three or more teams finish level on points, most wins will again be used as the first tie-break, then net run-rate

All times GMT

GROUP A

	P	W	T	L	Pts	NRR
Sri Lanka	4	4	0	0	8	0.90
Australia	4	3	1	0	6	1.27
India	4	2	2	0	4	0.39
West Indies	4	1	3	0	2	-0.27
Kenya	4	1	3	0	2	-0.50
Zimbabwe	4	1	3	0	2	-0.96

RESULTS: West Indies beat Zimbabwe by 6 wkts, Hyderabad; Sri Lanka beat Australia, Colombo, forfeit; India beat Kenya by 7 wkts, Cuttack; Sri Lanka beat Zimbabwe by 6 wkts, Colombo; India beat West Indies by 5 wkts, Gwalior; Australia beat Kenya by 97 runs, Visakhapatnam; Sri Lanka beat West Indies, Colombo, forfeit; Australia beat India by 16 runs, Bombay; Zimbabwe beat Kenya by 5 wkts, Patna; Kenya beat West Indies by 73 runs, Pune; Australia beat Zimbabwe by 8 wkts, Nagpur; Sri Lanka beat India by 6 wkts, Delhi

FIXTURES: Today: West Indies v Australia, Jaipur (03.30) Mar 6: India v Zimbabwe, Kanpur (03.30). Mar 6: Sri Lanka v Kenya, Kandy (03.30).

GROUP B

	P	W	T	L	Pts	NRR
South Africa	4	4	0	0	8	1.75
Pakistan	4	3	1	0	6	0.99
New Zealand	4	3	1	0	6	0.94
England	5	2	3	0	4	0.07
UAE	5	1	4	0	2	-1.83
Holland	4	0	4	0	0	-1.80

RESULTS: New Zealand beat England by 11 runs, Ahmedabad; South Africa beat UAE by 189 runs, Rawalpindi; New Zealand beat Holland by 119 runs, Vadodara; England beat UAE by 8 wkts, Peshawar; South Africa beat New Zealand by 5 wkts, Faisalabad; England beat Holland by 49 runs, Peshawar; Pakistan beat UAE by 9 wkts, Gujranwala; South Africa beat England by 78 runs, Rawalpindi; Pakistan beat Holland by 8 wkts, Lahore; New Zealand beat UAE by 109 runs, Faisalabad; South Africa beat Pakistan by 5 wkts, Karachi; UAE beat Holland by 7 wkts, Lahore; Pakistan beat England by 7 wkts, Karachi.

FIXTURES: Tomorrow: Holland v South Africa, Rawalpindi (04.00). Mar 8: Pakistan v New Zealand, Lahore (09.30)

QUARTER-FINALS: Mar 9: Winner group A v 4th group B, Faisalabad (04.00). Mar 9: 3rd group A v runner-up group B, Bangalore (09.00). Mar 11: Winner group B v 4th group A, Karachi (04.00). Mar 11: 3rd group B v runner-up group A, Madras (09.00).

SEMI-FINALS: Mar 13: Faisalabad winner v Bangalore winner, Calcutta (09.00) Mar 14: Karachi winner v Madras winner, Chandigarh (09.00).

FINAL: Mar 17: Lahore

Captain Fearful senses approach of firing squad

Simon Wilde's WORLD CUP EXTRAS

IT IS hard to know who is less sanguine about his future, Michael Atherton or Richie Richardson. Each is openly fearful that a bad World Cup for his side could be the death of his leadership. Both may be right. The difference is that, in the Caribbean, revenge is a dish they prefer to eat cold.

This may explain some frank remarks from Richardson yesterday on the eve of their vital match against Australia. "If it's time for someone else to take over, I don't have a problem with that," he said. "I will still support the West Indies team and West Indies cricket 100 per cent. I know people at home are hurt and they're very disappointed . . . it was a really bad performance [against Kenya] and we deserve to get criticised.

"I would say to the West Indian public that we're very, very sorry, we're as disappointed as they are. I've never felt this bad in all my life. If things are not going well, somebody should be blamed and the people at the top are usually the ones. I'm the captain, but the players are also responsible, the whole set-up is responsible . . . we're in a very, very deep hole and we're almost at the bottom."

If Richardson is fired, he may not play for West Indies again. He is 34 and — as his predecessor, Viv Richards, discovered — West Indies captains rarely play on under their successors.

Hat trick snub

Another snub for the World Cup jobsworths. Anxious to preserve the integrity and culture of the game, one of their number told Jack Russell in Ahmedabad three weeks ago that he could not wear the floppy, white hat that the Gloucestershire and England wicketkeeper is believed to have worn since 1981: he had to wear one in England's "traditional" one-day colours of sky blue instead. Russell ignored him and played in the hat anyway.

Another official attempted to prevent Javed Miandad going out to bat against England in Karachi yesterday in a white helmet rather than Pakistan's one-day green. Miandad refused to change it. "I've worn it for the last 20 years and I am not going to stop now," he replied. Mind you, Miandad has fried bigger fish than this in his homeland, where few umpires are bold enough to give him out leg-before and he once used his influence with the prime minister to remind the national selectors of the wisdom of picking him.

Dubious hypes

The encounter in Jaipur today between the World's Most Hyped Batsman (Brian Lara) and the World's Most Hyped Bowler (Shane Warne) is something of a rarity. They had met only three times before in one-day matches, in the Caribbean last year, when Lara scored 55, 62 and 139. Warne did not take his wicket, which he has only claimed once in eight Test matches. Not that either believes the hype about the other. Lara thinks Warne has fewer variations than Mushtaq Ahmed; Warne that Sachin Tendulkar is a more unforgiving batsman than Lara.

Rhodes to hockey

Jonty Rhodes, the South Africa batsman who gave up the chance of an international hockey career four years ago to concentrate on cricket, has been given permission to join a trial with his country's hockey squad prior to the Olympic Games in Atlanta in July. It is easy to imagine that Rhodes's speed and mobility is as much an asset on the hockey field as it is when he prowls the covers. As Ian Chappell once remarked: "Two-thirds of the world's surface is covered by water, the rest by Jonty Rhodes."

Just the ticket

Supporters queued for ten hours to buy the first tickets to go on sale yesterday for the World Cup quarter-final in Bangalore next Saturday, on the off-chance that it will be between arch rivals India and Pakistan, who have not played each other on the subcontinent since 1989. "Everybody expects it to be an India-Pakistan match. That is the reason for this frenzy," an official of the Karnataka State Cricket Association said. If the unthinkable happens, a huge security operation will be mounted, with units of India's border security force and 2,000 police drafted in for the day-night match.

Ma's army ready for return to front line in Atlanta



Ma Junren: harsh

Jimmy Pringle, in Peking, reports on the revival of a controversial track coach

MA JUNREN, the controversial, chain-smoking Chinese track coach, a rough-hewn ex-soldier who two years ago fell from grace after his "family army" of female athletes mutinied and deserted over alleged harsh discipline, seems set to lead his "soldiers" to the Olympic Games after a six-strong team won an unexpected victory in an international marathon relay race here.

"If I am entrusted by the Chinese public to go to Atlanta, of course I will do my best." Ma, 52, said after China led home 15 teams in the annual event over 26.3 miles.

The Peking media, which has attacked him in the past for arrogance, is singing his praises now. "Famous Scotch Ma once again becomes focus of the people" the *Peking Youth Daily* trumpeted yesterday after Ma's triumph on Saturday.

Ma has reason to be pleased. Before the race, he referred to the fifth place achieved by China under another coach last year and said: "Today's result will definitely be better than last year, but, given the young age and lack of experience of the new runners, we're hoping to finish fourth but will strive for third."

Of the six members of Ma's family army in the event, four — Wang Xiaoxia, Cong Li, Yue Chao Xia and Xin Kai Xia — were unknowns. The others were Dong Yanmei and Cui Ying, a thin, intense girl, weather-beaten by the sun during gruelling training sessions, who was the first Chinese runner in the relay and set a cracking pace.

Ma's girls, most of sturdy peasant stock from the rural areas of Liaoning in rugged northeast China, wear the short haircuts that have the hallmark of Ma's army. Ma favours them because he says that they are "good for the skin".

These crops were one of the reasons that runners such as Wang Jun Xia, the 10,000 metres world record-holder, left in 1994 with 16 others a few months after an earlier row over hairstyles and a boyfriend had led Liu Dong, the 1,500 metres runner, to leave in a huff.

Jaing Bo, China's new Olympic hopeful, was originally listed to take part on Saturday, but was inexplicably absent. Qu Yunxia, the 1,500 metres world record-holder, was sick with a liver complaint.

Romania came second and Japan, who won the event last year, third. China's time of 2hr 15min 48sec was still 1min 33sec behind the world's best, recently set by Japan. Clutching the trophy, Ma pointed out that, in Asia, only China and Japan had the capacity to compete in long and middle-distances at Atlanta and added that they could together win "glories for the whole of Asia".

Last week, on arrival here, Ma had claimed that most members of his original army had returned, but there was no mention of Wang Jun Xia or Liu Dong. "The departure of my old protégés two years ago taught me a lesson and I came to realise the importance of scientific management," Ma said.

He claims that his victories are a result of high-altitude training and tonics of turtle blood and caterpillar soup, which he has established a company to market in China and abroad. Ma rides an ancient motorcycle sidecar beside his athletes, urging them on.

Critics at the world championships in Stuttgart in 1993, where Ma's family army first burst on to the international scene, called for drug tests, but nothing was proven. Ma's harsh rule, however, was too much for his charges, even though many were used to a spartan lifestyle in the Chinese countryside. Boyfriends and stylish clothes were banned. The young runners also claimed that they needed some time for relaxation and accused him of impounding prize-money which he said he was holding for them only temporarily.

Kinkladze touches heights despite low-key display



Simon Barnes sees a player below his best catch the eye in Manchester City's 1-1 draw

You have to expect a reaction. Georgiou Kinkladze has played two successive games of baroque splendour, in a manner that has not been seen for years. It was inevitable that Saturday at Maine Road should be a let-down, a return to a more austere period of art.

He has given two wonderful games, filled with extraordinary dribbling charges at the finest teams in the country, the Uniteds of Manchester and Newcastle. You might have thought that Blackburn Rovers, a team that never needs to go *back* to basics, would be tailor-made for another virtuoso performance.

No. Kinkladze, the Georgian who has already been praised as perhaps the finest foreigner to play for an English club, had a day when he showed his skills in, as it were, a minor key.

He laid off more than he ran, he was too often bypassed as Manchester City chased the game, he was seldom picked out by Clough, whose radar was up the creek. Thus is it with these players of huge talent — one week, at the heart of things, conductor and soloist in a concerto for Kindladze and orchestra; next week, fiddling away more or less anonymously.

He made only two telling contributions in the match. Each was, as they say, worth the admission-money on its own. Kinkladze's two contributions should have made it 3-1; they really were that good.

The first came after ten minutes, when Kinkladze turned his marker inside out with a single touch. The obvious technique for stopping a man as single-footed as Kinkladze is to stand in front of the good foot, but his touch was so perfect that he took the ball and, in a single touch of that magical left foot, carried it across his body into space on his right.

This can only be because his touch is so deft, so yielding and cushioning, that he can carry the ball on his boot a fraction longer than run-of-the-mill hoofers. Now on his left foot, Kinkladze's forward pass into space gave Rösler an almost indecently perfect ball to run on to.

Flowers, the Blackburn goalkeeper who was last week undone by a famous freak goal, was in a mood to show that he really can keep goal. He narrowed the angle well and beat away Rösler's shot. Rösler should have scored, though, and the head-hang showed that he knew it.

That was about all we really got of Kinkladze until the final minute. Blackburn went ahead in the first half when Summerbee made an error that perhaps every full back in the country has made once: thinking that Shearer cannot possibly score from here. Shearer's drive from out on the left edge of the penalty area damn near splintered the post before going in.

City looked increasingly downcast at this until Alan Ball, their manager, made a double substitution with 15 minutes to go. Lomas equalised with a charging header from a cross by Summerbee. Flowers saved well from Phillips, the wunderkind, and again from Flitcroft.

Then came Kinkladze. Again, at last. Scurrying into the opposing penalty area, reaching the byline on the left, bodies between him and goal.

Then, suddenly, no bodies. Kinkladze clear, with a long moment to measure the options and choose the best. I do not know how he did that one. I do not have a clue. No explanation at all to offer. I do not think that there is another player in English football who could have done it.

A sweet cross, and Rösler steaming in for the header. It was an unusual cross, travelling only a short distance with a delicate, looping trajectory. Perhaps that is why Rösler mistimed his jump. He got underneath it, the ball soared over and City had to be content with a single point.

Kinkladze is only 22, cost only £2 million from Dynamo Tbilisi and was signed in the close season on the day that Ball arrived. It must be the best bit of business that he has ever done, though it was nothing to do with him.

Kinkladze has outstanding individual skills, but he is not a lonely, misunderstood maverick; he is a match-winner. He should have been celebrated as exactly that this morning.

He dribbles. Ryan Giggs does not dribble, he runs — majestically — with the ball, a different matter entirely. Has English football had a true dribbler in football since the charming but ineffective Pat Nevin? You start to think of throw-backs, of players like Charlie Cooke.

Is dribbling a football at speed the hardest task in all ball games? The throwing and catching by rugby players, on the television in the press-room after the game, was elephantine in comparison. Perhaps consistent hitting in baseball — round ball, round bat — is the only thing as hard to pull off. Dribbling is the more remarkable skill and, even in muted form, Kinkladze is the footballing revelation of the season.

MANCHESTER CITY (4-3-1-2): E Immel — N Summerbee, K Symons, K Curle, M Frontzeck (sub S Hiley, 75min) — S Lomas, N Clough, G Flitcroft — G Kinkladze — N Quinn (sub M Phillips, 75), U Rösler
BLACKBURN ROVERS (4-4-2): T Flowers — H Berg, C Hendry, C Coleman, J Hendrie — K Gallacher, T Sherwood, W McKimlay, M Holmes — A Shearer, M Newell
Referee: P Danson

Branco does enough to whet the appetite

Middlesbrough 0
Everton 2

BY IVO TENNANT

THE last competitive match that Branco had played in had taken place three months ago. Now, he was in a foreign country, an alien climate, a bewildering culture, representing a club which, for all he knew, had not existed before Juninho arrived. He was fit enough only to pad around the pitch for ten minutes at half-pace, and yet still looked considerably more accomplished than anybody else.

He is, of course, Branco, who flew in to Teesside three days before this match, has 83 Brazil caps to his snappy name, and would have won more during the past two years had his country not looked to try out numerous younger players. He can perform at left back, centre back or, as he did on Saturday as a substitute, in midfield.

Bryan Robson, his manager, ultimately had little choice in the matter of where to play him. Middlesbrough were being beaten — and soundly. Branco, 31, is heavier as well as older than Juninho, his compatriot, but he has at least had a personal trainer at his disposal over the past two months. Better for Robson to have taken a chance with him in midfield from the outset than to bring him on with the match lost.

There was still quite a bit to enjoy. A loose ball was driven a foot wide before Southall moved, a smart backheel dumbfounded his new colleagues as much as the opposition. Once, Branco sidestepped a committed defender and tumbled over in the Everton penalty area, a mite too theatrically for the referee. What will he do over a full 90 minutes? He and Juninho will be reunited at Upton Park on Saturday, and there will be a crowd to watch them, for sure.

Let us hope that it will be an appreciative one, for Branco, given his age, is not likely to be in England for long. It will be all too brief a stay if Middlesbrough continue their alarming spiral. Their last victory in the FA Carling Premiership — over West Ham United — was before Christmas. They have been defeated nine times in their past ten league matches. The Endsleigh Insurance League beckons, and it is not the place to finish up in if you are more accustomed to a World Cup final.

Branco was hardly welcomed by Everton's supporters, which was only to be expected, but the reception, if that is the right word, given to Kanchelskis by Middlesbrough's followers was appalling. Was it only because he turned down their club in favour of Everton? A fanzine even came up with the theory that he had bought a house of Teesside and been fitted out for shirt size before opting for Merseyside.

Here, then, was another example of a lack of respect towards the visiting top player, let alone enjoyment of his abilities. He is foreign, he is top-class, he is on the wrong side, therefore he will be abused. This attitude is prevalent in most sports, although it has become worse since Peter Thomson, the Australian golfer, realised with incredulity 25 years ago that crowds in the United States were cheering when his ball landed in a bunker. "This kind of alien reaction is something that we, as performers, must now accept," he said then.



RUI VIEIRA

Barmby, the Middlesbrough forward, is brought down to earth by a sliding tackle from Ebbrell at the Riverside Stadium

Kanchelskis tolerated it. What was more, the balance and control that he possesses in abundance brought about Everton's second goal, a minute before half-time. Three defenders pursued him in vain, and at least one of them, Fleming, brought him down. Hinchcliffe scored with the ensuing penalty to add to Grant's volley midway through the first half.

Middlesbrough, with five players suspended and in need of Robson's presence, passed the ball pleasingly enough at times. Fjortoft had two clear chances, once clipping the bar and then driving against Southall's legs, but they lacked the element of the unexpected that Brazilians can, and do, provide.

MIDDLESBROUGH (4-5-1): G Walsh — N Cox, D Whyte, M Barron, C Fleming — R Mustoe, N Barmby, A Moore, G Kavanagh (sub Branco, 80min), C Hignett (sub J Hendrie, 80) — J A Fjortoft
EVERTON (4-4-2): N Southall — J O'Connor, D Unsworth, D Watson, A Hinchcliffe — A Kanchelskis, J Parkinson, A Grant, J Ebbrell — G Stuart, D Ferguson
Referee: D Gallagher.

Chelsea prosper from Hoddle's weighting game

Wimbledon 1
Chelsea 1

BY ANDREW LONGMORE

FOR once in the FA Carling Premiership, all eyes were on the FA Cup, whatever the managers said. After the match, queues formed in the cold and the rain for tickets for the quarter-final at Stamford Bridge on Saturday. There was a distinct sense of "see you next week", epitomised by Vinnie Jones and Ruud Gullit, who could have been wearing dancing shoes rather than football boots for all the contact made.

Far from extending hostilities from Boxing Day, when Jones was sent off for fouling the Dutchman and then accused him, in particular, and foreigners in general, of squealing like pigs, the No 4s must have signed a non-tackling treaty. Jones man-marked Gullit throughout the second half, but it was more blocking than marking, and such was Gullit's general disinterest in the proceedings that only once did he bother to force the issue.

The moment was pure comedy. One-on-one, with Gullit already at pace and steaming for the byline, Jones valiantly summoned every sinew for the pursuit, only to be left trailing like a London bus in the wake of a Williams Renault. Gullit's cross, though, was cleared and he resumed his meandering and Jones his lumbering.

The leader of the Crazy Gang is a caricature of himself these days — "For sale: one long-throw specialist with a nice line in ferocious looks. Only relegation strugglers need apply."

Whether enough of the Cup's magic dust can settle on these two by Saturday to produce a decent game is open to question. They are just not suited to each other. Chelsea, at least, proved a point as well as winning one by matching their traditional bogeymen for muscle. Glenn Hoddle, their manager, selected his team on the principles of the boxing rather than footballing form, raising Chelsea's punching power by bringing in Johnsen (6ft 1in, 13st 5lb), Furlong (6ft, 11st 8lb) and Spackman (6ft 1in, 12st 4lb) and leaving out Peacock (5ft 8in, 11st 5lb) and Spencer (5ft 7in, 9st 10lb).

It took time for Chelsea to get the hang of the whack down the channels, which is still Wimbledon's staple diet, but, by the end, they had mastered it well enough to try to play some football as well.

Afterwards, Hoddle suggested that the pitch at Stamford Bridge would be better suited to Chelsea's footsteps than Wimbledon's hoofs, hinting that his side would do it their way next time. It could be a tortuous tactical week for him, the purist vying with the pragmatist for the high ground. Or the high ball. Either way, logic dictates that he cannot keep Steve Clarke at the centre of his three-man defence, particularly if Dean Holdsworth returns.

Full results and league tables ... Page 26

Clarke looked thoroughly ill at ease under pressure from Ekoku and, with some inevitability, deflected Gayle's cross into the net moments after Furlong had headed Chelsea undeservedly ahead from Wise's free kick in the first half. After conceding two own goals against Aston Villa last week, Wimbledon knew the feeling well. Just one of those things, Hoddle said. Next Saturday, it will be for real.

WIMBLEDON (4-3-3): N Sullivan — K Cunningham, D Blackwell, C Perry, A Kimble — R Earle, V Jones, O Leonhardsen — J Goodman (sub A Clarke 84min), E Ekoku, M Gayle
CHELSEA (3-5-2): K Hitchcock — M Duberry, S Clarke, E Johnsen (sub G Peacock, 83) — D Petrescu, R Gullit, N Spackman, D Wise, T Phelan — M Hughes, P Furlong
Referee: P Jones

Southampton re-enter the twilight zone

Tottenham Hotspur 1
Southampton 0

BY RUSSELL KEMPSON

IN THE FA Carling Premiership, there are the haves, the might-haves and the have-nots. The division is clearly defined in the mind of Dave Merrington, the Southampton manager, and he knows exactly where his club lies — in the basement. Life is a constant battle against the big boys, the big bucks and the big drop.

Merrington states it as fact, not excuse, for his side's increasingly apparent shortcomings, and he can probably take the strain of such unfair odds. Whether his players can exhibit similar resilience, after slipping into the twilight zone of relegation for the first time since October, he dare not contemplate yet — at least not publicly.

"You have got the 'mega six' at the top, then those in the middle who can spend a bit, then the lot at the bottom," Merrington said. "In terms of finance, it is us and Wimbledon. What did our team cost? Around £3-3.5 million, I suppose. That is about the same as one of Tottenham's players."

Southampton have no option but to chase the minutest morsel, to beg for scraps at the banqueting table. "We will keep fighting on, the spirit is still excellent," Merrington said. "You have just got to keep working hard. Perhaps we did not deserve to win, but we did not deserve to lose, either."

At White Hart Lane on Saturday, neither of the sides emerged with much credit. Whether Tottenham qualify for membership of the "mega six", or are simply one of those who can spend a bit, is a moot point. On the patchwork evidence of a divot-encrusted surface that requires drastic summer surgery, they often resembled a job-lot among Merrington's lot at the bottom.

How they missed Armstrong, whose transfer fee of £4.5 million, when he moved from Crystal Palace last year, could have taken an entire new team to The Dell, with plenty of change. Injury kept him out for only the second time this season and, though Slade, 20, his replacement, made an encouraging debut, Sheringham, Armstrong's usual partner, was often left shaking his head in frustration. An eager rookie is no substitute for genuine quality.

Apart from Slade's early volley, that shaved a post, the first half should be left to gather cobwebs. The second period was marginally better, the highlight of which saw Wilson, Slade, Campbell, Howells and Sinton combine succinctly to set up Dozzell's headed goal after 64 minutes. It needed a deflection, too, with Sinton's eventual cross arcing off Widdrington, deceiving Beasant and allowing Dozzell to nip in before Hall.

Shipperley should have equalised in the 88th minute from Le Tissier's exquisite pass — one of his few contributions in a lethargic display — but he shot over. Thus, Tottenham remained amid the big boys and Southampton reconsidered the big drop; the stark contrast of the haves and have-nots.

TOTTENHAM HOTSPUR (4-4-2): I Walker — S Campbell, C Calderwood, G Mabbutt, C Wilson — R Fox, J Dozzell, D Howells, A Sinton — E Sheringham, S Slade (sub R Rosenthal, 76min)
SOUTHAMPTON (4-4-2): D Beasant — T Widdrington, K Monkou, R Hall, F Benali — M Le Tissier, J Magilton, B Venison, S Charlton (sub M Oakley, 67) — G Watson (sub P Tisdale, 82), N Shipperley
Referee: K Burge

Bolton breathe life back into survival campaign

Leeds United 0
Bolton Wanderers 1

BY MARK HODKINSON

RATHER like the woman found alive earlier this year in a mortuary, a faint pulse has suddenly been discovered in Bolton Wanderers. A deserved victory against torpid Leeds United on Saturday has brought them to within one win of Queens Park Rangers, who are next to bottom — not bad for a team which was once eight points adrift in the FA Carling Premiership.

Bolton, in their change kit of indigo, played with just one forward, the tireless Nathan Blake, and the rest swarmed around the ball like bluebottles waking up to spring. When the ball fell under their command, their play, usually organised by Curcic, was busy and forthright.

The goal came early, when Palmer, so often impeded by his own elbows and knees, collided with Phillips. Sellars floated over the subsequent free kick and Bergsson headed strongly past Lukic.

Bolton, with Leeds perhaps dreaming of Wembley, enjoyed the scenery in their opponents' half. Curcic, Blake and Paatelainen tested Lukic before Leeds mustered their first authentic attack. Brolin, with more than half an hour gone, finally ran at the visitors. Typically, his pass, aimed at Yeboah, raced ahead for Branagan to collect easily.

Leeds discharged their drowsiness after the break and tore repeatedly into Bolton's thick blue line. Brolin, rumoured to be under orders to improve his work-rate, ran hard, sometimes finding himself on the edge of his own penalty area as he sought the ball. Brolin and Yeboah, a striking partnership ostensibly heaven-made, were, for the most part, strangers on the same train, and neither sure of the destination.

De Freitas replaced the exhausted Blake and headed wide with his first touch. A few minutes later, he was put through by Stubbs. He rounded Lukic but, instead of passing to the unmarked Curcic, he shot selfishly, and Beesley kicked it from the line. Curcic, denied a goal that his enterprise and skill merited, kicked the goalpost in frustration. The rattle could be heard from the other end of the pitch.

Leeds provided the expected late rally. Branagan made an exceptional save from Palmer and, in the fading seconds, Deane headed wide after some intricate interplay between Brolin and Wallace.

Colin Todd, the Bolton manager, was appropriately proud of his team. "I told the players in the hotel before the game that, after the United defeat [they lost 6-0 at home to Manchester United last Sunday], the whole nation was looking at us and waiting for us to fall flat on our faces," he said. "I said to them that if they worked, organised themselves, had the appetite and were disciplined, who knows? They responded magnificently. It's been a good day for us, a very good day."

Howard Wilkinson, the Leeds manager, bemoaned his lengthy injury list, the numerous cup games that his side had played, and complained that his squad was thin. He also conceded a lack of will. "There were people out there who were content to just join in," he said. "Only three or four wanted to play."

LEEDS UNITED (4-3-3): J Lukic — N Worthington (sub A Couzens, 75min), D Wetherall, P Beesley, L Radebe (sub A Gray, 83) — R Wallace, C Palmer, G McAllister — B Deane, T Brolin, A Yeboah
BOLTON WANDERERS (4-5-1): K Branagan — J Phillips, S Coleman, C Fairclough, G Bergsson — A Stubbs, S Curcic, S Sellars, M Paatelainen, S Green — N Blake (sub P De Freitas, 75)
Referee: G Willard

Bergkamp orchestrates rhythms of Rioch



Bergkamp: dedicated

Queens Park Rangers .. 1
Arsenal 1

BY ALYSON RUDD

IN THEIR matchday programme, Queens Park Rangers update their record of the season with a list of who played in each match. A black circle after a player's name indicates a goal scored, a yellow one illustrates a booking. Perhaps not surprisingly for a side in a relegation place, the page looks like a bowl of sunshine muesli, with a smattering of 23 goals among 64 cautions.

Too few goals evidently results in frustration. Rangers can defend well, but what they cannot do is convert goalscoring chances. The difference between the two goals scored on Saturday explained why a club pays £7.5 million for a forward.

Kevin Gallen put Rangers ahead after 20 minutes. Impey's cross ricocheted off a defender's shin to land at his feet. He did not have time to consider how to strike the ball nor where to place it. All he had to do was co-ordinate foot and eye and it was a goal, his third of the season.

Do not be fooled into thinking that Dennis Bergkamp equalised with a similarly instinctive goal. Certainly, he struck Dixon's cross on the volley so cleanly that the ball never appeared to actually touch his foot, but, according to Bruce Rioch, his manager, "that goal wasn't an accident".

The Holland international practises his volleying over and over again. Rioch painted a picture of a dedicated, possibly obsessive, character who is incessantly striking mid-air missiles until the net can stand no more.

Bergkamp is not the most magnetic of the foreign players gracing the FA Carling Premiership, neither is he the best value-for-money signing, but he seems to suit Rioch. "It can't be fast, fast, fast," the manager said. "I think there has be to be a slow, slow, quick, quick, slow." Arsenal hardly tango across the pitch, but Bergkamp at least knows when to stroll and when to squeeze the trigger.

"I think Bergkamp is one for the connoisseur," Ray Wilkins, the Rangers manager, said. Which, roughly translated, means that Bergkamp must seem fairly boring, but, if you scrutinise his play, it is actually rather beautiful. How sweet that Wilkins has time to admire the opposition's centre forward while his side cling to the rim of the slippery slope.

QUEENS PARK RANGERS (4-3-3): J Sommer — D Bardsley, K Ready, S Yates, T Challis — N Quashie, I Holloway, S Barker — T Sinclair, K Gallen, A Impey (sub, D Dicko, 60min).
ARSENAL (3-4-1-2): D Seaman — M Keown, A Linighan, S Morrow (sub M Rose, 46) — L Dixon, R Parlour, D Platt, N Wreteburn — P Merson — D Bergkamp, J Hartson
Referee: P Alcock.



Todd: fresh optimism

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Fowler and McManaman destroy Villa with stunning opening salvo

Liverpool underline title credentials

Liverpool 3
Aston Villa 0

BY PETER BALL

ANYONE who thinks the FA Carling Premiership is a two-horse race had better think again. Liverpool gave their own view yesterday, and an emphatic one it was, three goals in the first eight minutes burning off Aston Villa's pretentions.

Liverpool are now two points behind second-placed Manchester United, a further four away from leaders Newcastle, who still have to visit Anfield. Whatever happens at St James' Park tonight, when the top two meet, Liverpool know they have to keep winning and hope for the leaders to slip, but on this form, nothing is beyond them.

They were simply awesome for half an hour yesterday, the pace and incisivness of their attacks tearing apart the defence which had been the best in the Premiership. After the dour war of attrition of Saturday afternoon's rugby, this was a rich tapestry of

Easter Road rumpus 27
Pearce in doubt 27
Bermudian connection .. 27

movement and imagination for the Sunday television audience.

Fowler, who took his total to 29 goals for the season, and McManaman were devastating, but it was hard to find a Liverpool player who was less than excellent. Apart from Yorke, Villa, by contrast, were collectively below par — in some cases more than one degree. Draper and Johnson were both missed, but it was the gaps in the defence which undid the visitors.

Bosnich has not had a happy time against Liverpool this year, his slip playing its part in Villa's only other recent defeat, when Liverpool won at Villa Park in January, and he was badly at fault for the third goal yesterday.

By the half-hour, the Villa supporters were giving their view of their defenders performance, with a mournful chant of "Oooh Ahhh Paul McGrath", even though it would have taken more than the absent Irishman to rescue them. It said everything about Villa's day that Milosevic and Ehiogu were booked in the final two minutes, Milosevic for kicking the ball away, Ehiogu for a scything tackle from behind on Fowler.

Milosevic will now serve a suspension before the Coca-Cola Cup final, but, for reasons best known to himself, Keith Cooper decided that Ehiogu should be booked for ungentlemanly rather than violent conduct leaving the player on 19 points instead of 21. Unless he is booked playing for the reserves on Tuesday, he will be at risk in Villa's next two matches.

"If what Ehiogu did was only two points, the whole system needs looking at," Brian Little, the Villa manager, said afterwards — the first time a manager has been known to complain that one of his own players was not dealt with firmly enough.

Liverpool could not have had a better start, taking the lead with a splendid goal after 78 seconds. After around 20 passes, Collymore's low cross found Barnes and he flicked the ball to McManaman who finished his intelligent run with a volley low below Bosnich's right hand.

That put the Kop in full voice and Liverpool were soon pouring towards them. Collymore had a shot saved, but, by the fourth minute, Villa's defence had been breached again. Another intricate series of passes ended with McAteer supplying McManaman who transferred the ball to Fowler. Fowler, received it with his back to goal, turned away from Staunton, and beat Bosnich with a rising drive from 30 yards.

Still Liverpool were not finished. Before another four minutes had passed, they scored again. Fowler timed his run to avoid an offside flag and accept Jones' pass down the left. He cut in and, shooting from a narrow angle, beat Bosnich who did no more than deflect the ball on its way into the net.

At 3-0 Villa at last went forward, for the first time and Townsend showed that they were taking part in the game with a shot over the bar. Liverpool were dominating matters, if one avenue was closed, they simply explored another. After being blocked down the right, the ball went back from McAteer to Wright to James. James switched it to Babb who began an attack down the left which culminated in Fowler just failing to claim a hat-trick as he turned Collymore's cross wide.

Soon both sides lost a central defender and, inevitably, the pace slackened. Villa strove hard to get back into the game, and in the second half, they had more say in things. However, when Milosevic placed his shot with too much care, and Southgate saw a header hit the woodwork, even a consolation was denied them.

LIVERPOOL (3-4-1-2): D James — M Wright (sub: J Redknapp, 31min), J Scales, P Babb — J McAteer, M Thomas, J Barnes, R Jones, — S McManaman — R Fowler, S Collymore.
ASTON VILLA (3-5-2): M Bosnich — U Ehiogu, G Southgate, S Staunton (sub: J Joachim, 22) — G Charles, R Scimeca, G Farrelly, A Townsend, A Wright — D Yorke, S Milosevic.
Referee: K Cooper (Pontypridd).


IAN STEWART
Collymore and McAteer congratulate McManaman after he had scored the opening goal to begin Liverpool's remarkable demolition of Villa

PREMIERSHIP AT A GLANCE

		Played	Points	Goal diff	Recent form
1	Newcastle	27	61	+27	WWWLD
2	Manchester Utd	28	57	+26	WWWWW
3	Liverpool	28	55	+32	WDWWW
4	Aston Villa	28	49	+15	WWDWL
5	Tottenham	28	48	+10	LDLWW
6	Everton	29	46	+14	DWLWW
7	Arsenal	28	45	+10	LDWWD
8	Chelsea	29	43	+6	WLLWD
9	Nottm Forest	28	43	-1	WLLLW
10	Blackburn	29	43	+9	WLLLD
11	West Ham	28	38	-6	WWWLD
12	Leeds	28	35	-7	WLLLL
13	Middlesbrough	29	34	-11	LLLDL
14	Sheffield Wed	28	31	-9	LWLLL
15	Wimbledon	28	26	-16	WLLDD
16	Coventry	28	26	-16	LDWDD
17	Manchester City	29	26	-20	DWLDD
18	Southampton	28	25	-11	WDDLL
19	QPR	28	22	-19	LLLWD
20	Bolton	28	19	-29	LLWLW

Weekly change: Up — Stayed the same — Down

Oldham's frantic late effort founders

dham Athletic 1
anmere Rovers 2

BY DAVID MADDOCK

FOUR, four, two; long, long, ball; dead, dead, boring. For three-quarters of this contest, two tediously predictable sides ploughed their depressingly English furrow, rigid formations and rigid imaginations boring everyone rigid.

Tranmere Rovers were the more proficient. It was enough, though, to give them a regulation two-goal lead from a depressingly routine passage of play. Then, after 71 minutes, Oldham Athletic pulled off the apparently impossible to score, and set up a conclusion that at last provided some excitement.

It was the entertainment that comes from a side that cannot score suddenly given heart against a team that cannot defend — vaudeville, but it was better than nothing. Tranmere had won one of their 15 matches before this, Oldham had scored five goals in their previous 11 games. Tranmere went to pieces when they conceded a goal, but still managed to cling on as Oldham could not find the net.

Tranmere at least managed to halt their recent freefall down the Endsleigh Insurance League first division, largely through the virtues of work-rate and experience, in the shape of Aldridge and Nevin. The latter produced a crisp volley to opening the scoring after 19 minutes. Aldridge, at 37, then showed that age has not blunted his appetite with a typically precise sidefoot shot after the Oldham defence allowed a cross by Nevin to reach him in the six-yard box on 52 minutes.

They could have scored more but for the reflexes of Gerrard, the C[illegible]ham goalkeeper. Oldh[illegible] their part, continue[illegible] away in the same [illegible] and a goal finally c[illegible] Gra-ham made [illegible] earlier errors with a [illegible] that looped high in[illegible]. There ensued the [illegible]cle of Tranmere tryi[illegible] throw away their winning position, and Oldham generously refusing the offer, spurning three simple opportunities in the final, frantic minutes.

OLDHAM ATHLETIC (4-4-2): P Gerrard — C Makin, R Graham, S Redmond, C Senior (sub: A Hughes, 64min) — G Halle (sub: S Barlow, 64), L Richardson, T Orlygsson, D Beresford — D Beckford, N Banger.
TRANMERE ROVERS (4-4-2): D Coyne — A Thomas, G Stevens, S Garnett, A Rogers (sub: D Higgins, 89) — P Nevin, G Branman, P Cook (sub: K Irons, 68), G Branch (sub: G Bennett, 87) — J Aldridge, I Moore
Referee: G Frankland.

Grimsby gremlins give Reid assistance

Grimsby Town 0
Sunderland 4

BY LOUISE TAYLOR

ALTHOUGH slightly flattered by the scoreline, Sunderland significantly enhanced their promotion hopes at a breezy, muddy Blundell Park yesterday.

Assisted by some chronic misunderstandings between Grimsby's goalkeeper and his defence they may have been, but Peter Reid's side emphatically cemented their second place in the Endsleigh Insurance League first division.

Six points behind Derby County with a game in hand, they are thus eagerly anticipating the leaders' visit to Wearside on Saturday.

On Humberside Sunderland were ahead ten minutes before half-time, Russell's tight, clever turn and drag back leaving Ball with the simple task of a close range tap-in.

Sunderland, however, initially had plenty of reason to be grateful to Given. The teenage goalkeeper, on loan from Blackburn, not only coped commendably with a stream of first half crosses, but, just before the break, blocked acrobatically as Southall cut in from the left flank to unleash a curling, rising shot.

Boasting positional sense, judgment of angles and robust physical maturity to belie his youth, Given looks poised for a highly promising future. Sunderland should make every endeavour to sign him up permanently. And fast.

Given and co were mighty grateful when, early in the second half, the referee waved away good-looking Grimsby appeals for handball. Sunderland then capitalised in the 71st minute when Russell rolled the ball into an empty net following a collision between Crichton, the Grimsby keeper, and Warner, one of his central defenders, on the edge of the area.

Warner required treatment for some minutes afterwards, and Sunderland then rubbed salt into his and Grimsby's wounds with two goals in the dying minutes from Phil Gray and Bridges, who had just come on as a substitute.

GRIMSBY TOWN (4-4-2): P Crichton — J McDermott, V Warner, M Lever, G Croft — G Childs (sub: B Laws, 68min), P Butler P Groves, N Southall — S Livingstone, J Forrester (sub: N Woods, 68)
SUNDERLAND (4-4-2): S Given — D Kubicki, A Melville, R Ord, N Scott — S Agnew (sub: G Hall, 83), P Bracewell, K Ball, Michael Gray — P Grey, C Russell (sub: M Bridges, 87)
Referee: M Pierce

Dutchman rekindles Forest fire

Sheffield Wednesday 1
Nottingham Forest 3

BY PAT GIBSON

BRYAN ROY'S return to form could not have come at a better time for Nottingham Forest. They face Bayern Munich in the first leg of a Uefa Cup quarter-final in Germany tomorrow and Frank Clark, their manager, is much more upbeat about their prospects than he was a week ago.

One of the reasons for Clark's optimism is the resurgence of Roy, a Dutchman, who took so long to recover his old zip after a cartilage operation that Clark began to lose patience with him. "If he had been playing like he was two or three weeks ago, he probably would not be in the team," Clark said, "but he has come good just in time. Having him firing on all cylinders is a big bonus for us."

It will be an even greater boost to Forest if Pearce, their captain, declares himself fit to play after being out for six weeks with a calf injury, although Clark rates his chances at no higher than 50-50. "With any other player, I would not even say it was 10-90," he said, "but, because of the skipper's presence, we would like him to be on the field if it is at all possible."

Forest also have worries about Stone, sent home on Saturday morning with swollen glands, and Woan, who has a sore knee, but they were offset by an impressive team performance altogether too good for a Sheffield Wednesday side heading for relegation trouble after losing for the fifth time in six games.

Last season, Forest beat them 7-1 at Hillsborough and Wednesday supporters must have feared a repeat when they lost Woods, their goalkeeper, with a hip injury at half-time. Forest had taken the lead in the tenth minute when Howe, Woan's replacement, scored with a crisp volley. Nicol, the stand-in goalkeeper, had not touched the ball when McGregor, Stone's deputy, added an even more spectacular second.

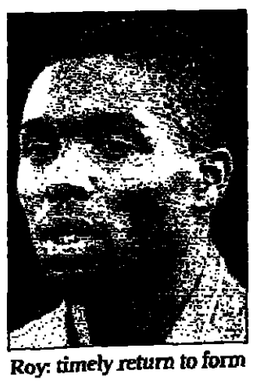
Such adversity strangely galvanised Wednesday into their best spell of the match; stranger still, it was inspired by Waddle, because he might have found himself playing in goal if Nicol had not volunteered for the job. It was Waddle's low cross that enabled Kovacevic to put Wednesday back into the game with a simple tap-in, but Allen, the Forest substitute, laid on the goal that Roy deserved, and that was that.

"One or two things conspired against us today," David Pleat, the Wednesday manager, said. "It is never easy when you lose your goalkeeper."

There was much more to it than that, however. As Clark said: "We all take the gamble of not having a substitute goalkeeper these days and sometimes it backfires, but you could not put either of the goals down to Steve Nicol. I would rather have seen Chris Waddle sitting on the bench all through the game."

Only Pleat can explain why he was sitting there for half of it.

SHEFFIELD WEDNESDAY (3-5-2): C Woods (sub: C Waddle, 46min) — P Atherton, J Watts, D Walker — I Nolan, G Hyde (sub: M Pembridge, 46), S Nicol, M Degryse, D Stolanovic (sub: R Humphreys, 70) — G Whitingham, D Kovacevic.
NOTTINGHAM FOREST (4-4-2): M Crossley — D Lyttle, A I Hesland, S Chettle, D Phillips — P McGregor (sub: C Allen, 73), S Gemmill, C Bart-Williams, S Howe (sub: K Black, 67) — K Campbell, B Roy.
Referee: G Poll


Roy: timely return to form

Commitment cheers Atkinson

Coventry City 2
West Ham United 2

BY NICK SZCZEPANIK

WHEN purists lament the British game's obsession with non-stop goalmouth incident at the expense of sophistication, they presumably have matches like this in mind. Not many people at Highfield Road seemed worried, however — not even the managers, for whom this type of game is usually more life-threatening than life-enhancing.

"There cannot be any sense of despondency after a game like that," Ron Atkinson, the Coventry City manager, said. "We played with drive and commitment to the cause: I have to be satisfied. If we play like that for the rest of the season, we will have plenty in hand."

Plenty more in the goals-against column, too, he might have added. His defence's opening gambit was a splendid piece of misunderstanding that saw Shaw heading out of Ogrizovic's hands. The goalkeeper then followed a fine save from Hughes's shot with a fumble that led to Cottee scoring after a bout of head-tennis, with only one minute on the clock.

Noel Whelan, of Coventry, a strong candidate for bargain of the season, soon countered with a cross that was volleyed home by Salako and a well-judged lob over Miklosko. Daish and Jess, Atkinson's most recent signings, fared less well. Neither has the measure of the FA Carling Premiership yet; Daish was frequently exposed in the first half, Jess often looked lost.

Ogrizovic's Jekyll and Hyde performance continued as he saved Dowie's close-range header, then flapped at another corner; the ball fell to Rieper, who finished with relish. The generosity of Coventry's defence offered their goalkeeper several opportunities to make amends as Cottee, Bilic and Potts were allowed free shots.

After such a first half, managers usually tighten things up. Atkinson, perversely, replaced Burrows, a full back, with Williams, a midfield player, and it nearly paid off. Williams's volley against the foot of a post was the nearest that either side came to a winner, although it was not for lack of trying.

Despite the dropped points, both managers felt positive about the result in the context of the season. "We got ourselves in bother early on," Atkinson reflected, "got ourselves out of it, might have lost it, then could have won it. At the end of it, we have moved up another place."

"They came out in the second half and had a real go," Harry Redknapp, the West Ham United manager, said. "In the end, we were all happy with the draw. For the first time, I am looking at the results of teams above and around us instead of below us. I felt it was going to be a hard season, but we have improved the standard of the squad, wheeled and dealed and brought in more quality. Now, I want to finish in the top ten."

This match may not be an ideal yardstick by which to judge those ambitions.

COVENTRY CITY (4-4-2): S Ogrizovic — B Borrows, R Shaw, L Daish, D Burrows (sub: P Williams, 45min) — J Salako, E Jess, K Richardson, P Ndlovu — D Dublin, N Whelan
WEST HAM UNITED (3-5-2): L Miklosko — S Bilic, M Rieper, J Dicks — S Potts, D Williamson, I Bishop, M Hughes, K Rowland — I Dowie, A Cottee (sub: J Harkes, 87)
Referee: M Bodenham.


Whelan: bargain buy



FA CARLING PREMIERSHIP

COVENTRY (2) 2 WEST HAM (2) 2
Salako 7
Whelan 15
Collee 2
Keeper 22
17,459

Coventry City: S Ogrizovic, B Borrows, D Burrows; (sub: P Williams, 45mn), L Dash, R Shaw, K Richardson, E Jess, P Ndlovu, D Dublin, N Whelan, J Salako
Booked: Burrows.
West Ham United: L Miklosko, J Dicks, J Rowland, S Potts, M Keeper, S Bilic, I Bishop, M Hughes, I Dowie, A Cottee (sub: J Harkes, 88min), D Williamson.
Booked: Dowie.
Referee: M Bodenham.

LEEDS (0) 0 BOLTON (1) 1
30,106
Bergsson 16

Leeds United: J Lukic, L Radebe (sub: A Gray, 81min), D Wetherall, P Beesley, N Worthington (sub: A Couzens, 75min), R Wallace, C Palmer, G McAllister, B Deane, T Brolin, A Yeboah.
Booked: Wetherall, Worthington, Brolin
Bolton Wanderers: K Branagan, S Green, C Fairclough, S Coleman, G Bergsson, J Phillips, S Caroll, A Stubbs, S Sellars, N Blake (sub: F De Freitas, 75min), M Pastoinainen.
Booked: Bergsson.
Referee: G Willard.

MAN CITY (0) 1 BLACKBURN (0) 1
Lomas 84
Shearer 57
29,078

Manchester City: E Immel, M Frontzeck (sub: S Hiley, 72min), S Lomas, K Curle, G Kinkladze, N Quinn (sub: M Phillips, 73min), G Fitzroit, K Symons, N Summerbee, N Clough, U Rosler
Blackburn Rovers: T Flowers, C Coleman, J Kenna, T Sherwood, C Hendry, K Gallacher, A Shearer, M Holmes, W McKimlay, M Newell, H Berg
Booked: Hendry, Shearer, Newell, McKinlay.
Referee: P Danson.

MIDDLSBORO (0) 0 EVERTON (2) 2
29,807
Gent 28
Hinchcliffe 45 (pen)

Middlesbrough: G Walsh, N Cox, D Whyte, N Barmby, J-A Fjortoft, R Mustoe, A Moore, C Fleming, G Kavanagh (sub: Branco, 80min), C Hignett (sub: J Hendrie, 80min), M Barton
Everton: N Southall, A Hinchcliffe, D Unsworth, D Watson, G Stuart, D Ferguson, J Ebbrell, J Parkinson, A Kanchelskis, T Grant, J O'Connor
Booked: Unsworth, Parkinson, O'Connor
Referee: D J Gallagher.

QPR (1) 1 ARSENAL (1) 1
Galton 20
Bergkamp 49
17,970

Queens Park Rangers: J Sommer, D Barker, S Yates, S Barker, I Holloway, M (sub: D Dicko, 59mn), K Gallen, T Sinc
Arsenal: D Seaman, L Dixon, N Winter, Linighan, S Morrow (sub: M Ross, 45m Platt, P Merson, D Bergkamp, J Hartson
Booked: Dixon, Parlour.
Referee: P E Alcock.

SHEFF WED (0) 1 NOTTM F (0) 3
Kovacevic 50
Howe 10
McGregor 46
Roy 80
21,930

Sheffield Wednesday: C Woods (sub: M Pemberton, 45min), P Atherton, I Nolan, S Nicol, D Stefanovic (sub: R Humphreys, 70min), M Degryse, G Hyde (sub: C Waddle, 45min), D Walker, D Kovacevic, G Whittingham, J Watts.
Nottingham Forest: M Crossley, D Lyttle, S Chettle, D Phillips, S Gemmill, K Campbell, A I Hasland, S Howe (sub: K Black, 67min), P McGregor (sub: C Allen, 73min), C Bart-Williams, B Roy.
Booked: Hasland
Referee: G Poll.

TOTTENHAM (0) 1 SOUTHAMPTON (0) 0
Dozzell 64
26,320

Tottenham Hotspur: I Walker, D Howells, C Calderwood, G Mabbutt, R Fox, E Sheringham, J Dozzell, C Wilson, S Campbell, A Sedon, S Slade (sub: R Rosenthal, 76min)
Southampton: D Beasant, F Benali, J Magilton, R Hall, K Monkou, M Le Tissier, G Watson (sub: P Tisdale, 82min), N Shepperley, T Widdrington, S Charlton (sub: M Oakley, 67min), B Venison
Booked: Benali, Widdrington
Referee: K W Burge.

WIMBLEDON (1) 1 CHELSEA (1) 1
Clarke 37 (og)
Furlong 35
17,048

Wimbledon: N Sullivan, K Cunningham, A Kimble, V Jones, D Blackwell, C Perry, O Leonhardsen, R Earle, E Blake, M Sayle, J Goodman (sub: A Clarke, 84min)
Booked: Leonhardsen.
Chelsea: K Hitchcock, S Clarke, R Gallit, E Johnsen (sub: G Peacock, 83min), M Hughes, D Wise, P Furlong, N Spackman, D Petrescu, T Phelan, M Duberry
Referee: P Jones.

Yesterday

LIVERPOOL (3) 3 A VILLA (0) 0
McManaman 2
Fowler 5, 8
39,506

Liverpool: D James, R Jones, J McAteer, M Wright (sub: J Redknapp, 32min), P Babb, S Collymore (sub: T Rush, 81min), J Barnes, J Scales, M Thomas, S McManaman, R Fowler.
Aston Villa: M Bosnich, G Charles, S Staunton (sub: J Joachim, 23min), S Southgate, S Milosevic, A Townsend, A Wright, U Ehiogu, D Yorke, G Farrelly, R Scimeca.
Booked: Milosevic, Ehiogu.
Referee: K Cooper

PREMIERSHIP SHOWDOWN: NEWCASTLE v MAN UTD

LAST SEASON: Newcastle United 1 (Kitson) Manchester United 1 (Hughes). HT: 0-1. Bkd: 4. Att: 34,471. It took Newcastle 55 minutes to cancel out Manchester's early lead.
10-YEAR RECORD: 2-4, 2-1, 1-0, 0-0, —, —, —, —, 1-1, 1-1.
THIS SEASON AT HOME: P13, W13, D0, L0, Fr30, Ag6
Aug 19 Coventry (W) 3-0 (Lee, Beardsley, Ferdinand)
Aug 30 Middlsbro (W) 1-0 (Ferdinand)
Sep 16 Man City (W) 3-1 (Beardsley, Ferdinand 2)
Sep 23 Chelsea (W) 2-0 (Ferdinand 2)
Oct 21 Wimbledon (W) 6-1 (Ferdinand 3, Howey, Clarke, Albert)
Nov 4 Liverpool (W) 2-1 (Ferdinand, Watson)
Nov 8 Blackburn (W) 1-0 (Lee)
Nov 25 Leeds (W) 2-1 (Lee, Beardsley)
Dec 16 Everton (W) 1-0 (Ferdinand)
Dec 23 Nottm For (W) 3-1 (Lee 2, Ginola)
Jan 2 Arsenal (W) 2-0 (Ferdinand, Ginola)
Jan 20 Bolton (W) 2-1 (Kitson, Beardsley)
Feb 3 Sheff Wed (W) 2-0 (Ferdinand, Clark)
ON THE ROAD: P14, W6, D4, L4, Fr22, Ag19
Aug 22 Bolton (W) 3-1 (Lee, Ferdinand 2)
Aug 27 Sheff Wed (W) 2-0 (Ginola, Beardsley)
Sep 9 Southmptn (L) 0-1
Oct 1 Everton (W) 3-1 (Ferdinand, Lee, Kitson)
Oct 14 QPR (W) 3-2 (Gillespie 2, Ferdinand)
Oct 29 Tottenham (D) 1-1 (Ginola)
Nov 18 A Villa (D) 1-1 (Ferdinand)
Dec 3 Wimbldon (D) 3-3 (Ferdinand 2, og)
Dec 9 Chelsea (L) 0-1
Dec 27 Man Utd (L) 0-2
Jan 14 Coventry (W) 1-0 (Watson)
Feb 10 Middlsbro (W) 2-1 (Watson, Ferdinand)
Feb 21 West Ham (L) 0-2
Feb 24 Man City (D) 3-3 (Albert 2, Asprilla)
THE HOME STRETCH: Today: Man Utd (H); Mar 16: West Ham (H); Mar 23: Arsenal (A); Apr 1: Liverpool (A); Apr 6: QPR (H); Apr 8: Blackburn (A); Apr 13: Aston Villa (H); Apr 27: Leeds (A); May 4: Tottenham (H). Tbc: Nottm For (A); Southampton (H).
STATISTICS: Goals scored 62: 21 Ferdinand; 7 Lee; 5 Beardsley; 4 Ginola; 3 Albert, Watson; 2 Clark, Gillespie, Kitson; 1 Asprilla, Howey, og. Conceded 26. Sent off 1: Stensford. Booked 29: 4 Ginola; 3 Barton, Beardsley, Beresford, Ferdinand, Gillespie; 2 Albert, Howey, Peacock; 1 Asprilla, Clark, Kitson, Lee.

THIS SEASON AT OLD TRAFFORD: Manchester United 2 (Cole, Keane) Newcastle United 0. HT: 1-0. Bkd: 3. Att: 42,024. Keegan conceded a sub-standard performance by his high-fliers.
THIS SEASON AT HOME: P14, W10, D4, L0, Fr27, Ag9
Aug 23 West Ham (W) 2-1 (Scholes, Keane)
Aug 28 Wimbldon (W) 3-1 (Keane 2, Cole)
Sep 16 Bolton (W) 3-0 (Scholes 2, Giggs)
Oct 1 Liverpool (D) 2-2 (Butt, Cantona)
Oct 14 Man City (W) 1-0 (Scholes)
Oct 28 Middlsbro (W) 2-0 (Pallister, Cole)
Nov 18 Southmptn (W) 4-1 (Cole, Giggs 2, Scholes)
Dec 2 Chelsea (D) 1-1 (Beckham)
Dec 9 Sheff Wed (D) 2-2 (Bruce, Beckham)
Dec 27 Newcastle (W) 2-0 (Cole, Keane)
Dec 30 QPR (W) 2-1 (Cole, Giggs)
Jan 13 A Villa (D) 0-0
Feb 10 Blackburn (W) 1-0 (Sharpe)
Feb 21 Everton (W) 2-0 (Giggs, Keane)
ON THE ROAD: P14, W7, D2, L5, Fr25, Ag20
Aug 19 A Villa (L) 1-3 (Beckham)
Aug 28 Blackburn (W) 2-1 (Sharpe, Beckham)
Sep 9 Everton (W) 3-2 (Keane 2, Cole)
Sep 23 Sheff Wed (D) 0-0
Oct 21 Chelsea (W) 4-1 (Scholes 2, Giggs, McClair)
Nov 4 Arsenal (L) 0-1
Nov 22 Coventry (W) 4-0 (McClair 2, Irwin, Beckham)
Nov 27 Nottm For (D) 1-1 (Cantona)
Dec 17 Liverpool (L) 0-2
Dec 24 Leeds (L) 1-3 (Cole)
Jan 1 Tottenham (L) 1-4 (Cole)
Jan 22 West Ham (W) 1-0 (Cantona)
Feb 3 Wimbldon (W) 4-2 (Cole, Cantona 2, og)
Feb 25 Bolton (W) 6-0 (Cole, Bruce, Beckham, Scholes 2, Butt)
THE HOME STRETCH: Today: Newcastle (A); Mar 16: QPR (A); Mar 24: Tottenham (H); Mar 30: Arsenal (H); Apr 6: Man City (A); Apr 8: Coventry (H); Apr 13: Southampton (A); Apr 27: Nottm For (H); May 4: Middlesbro (A). Tbc: Leeds (H).
STATISTICS. Goals scored 55: 10 Cole; 9 Scholes; 7 Keane; 6 Beckham, Giggs; 5 Cantona; 3 McClair; 2 Bruce, Butt, Sharpe; 1 Irwin, Pallister, OG. Conceded 29. Sent off 3: Keane 2, Butt. Booked 38: 5 Butt, Neville G; 4 Beckham, Bruce, Keane; 3 Irwin, Sharpe; 2 Cole, Pallister; 1 Cantona, Neville P, McClair, Schmeichel, Scholes.

GOALSCORERS

	Lge	Cup	Euro	Total
A Shearer (Blackburn)	25	5	1	31
R Fowler (Liverpool)	24	5	0	29
L Ferdinand (Newcastle)	21	4	0	25
T Sheringham (Tottenham)	14	7	0	21
D Yorke (Aston Villa)	13	7	0	20
I Wright (Arsenal)	11	8	0	19
T Yeboah (Leeds)	10	4	3	17
C Armstrong (Tottenham)	9	7	0	16
D Dublin (Coventry)	13	2	0	15
D Bergkamp (Arsenal)	8	5	0	14
S Collymore (Liverpool)	9	5	0	14
* N Blake (Bolton)	12	0	0	13
P Scholes (Man Utd)	9	3	1	13
D Holdsworth (Wimbledon)	8	5	0	13
G Stuart (Everton)	8	4	1	13

* 12 for Sheffield United



Zickler (right), of Bayern Munich, tries to pass Trares, of 1860 Munich, during their German first division match. Bayern won 4-2 to go top of the League

OVERSEAS

ITALIAN LEAGUE: Parma 1 AS Roma 1, AC Milan 4 Vicenza 0; Padua 0 Juventus 5; Atalanta 1 Cremonese 1; Cagliari 4 Bari 2; Fiorentina 2 Sampdoria 2; Lazio 0 Inter 1, Napoli 0 Piacenza 0; Torino 2 Udinese 0.

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Milan	24	15	8	1	41	17	53
Fiorentina	24	13	7	4	40	22	46
Parma	24	11	10	3	34	20	43
Juventus	24	12	6	6	41	23	42
Lazio	24	11	6	7	45	27	39
Inter	24	10	8	6	31	18	38
Roma	24	9	8	7	30	23	35
Sampdoria	24	8	8	8	35	35	32
Vicenza	24	8	8	8	24	26	32
Udinese	24	8	7	9	26	31	31
Napoli	24	7	9	8	22	29	30
Cagliari	24	9	3	12	26	38	30
Atalanta	24	7	6	11	26	37	27
Piacenza	24	6	7	11	23	41	25
Torino	24	5	9	10	24	34	24
Padova	24	6	3	15	26	45	21
Cremonese	24	3	9	12	27	37	18
Bari	24	4	6	14	34	53	18

DUTCH LEAGUE: Vitesse Arnhem 2 Ajax Amsterdam 1; Sparta Rotterdam 3 NAC Breda 1; FC Groningen 1 Feyenoord Rotterdam 0; FC Utrecht 0 RKC Waalwijk 0; FC Twente 1 De Graafschap Doetinchem 0; PSV Eindhoven 3 Roda JC Kerkrade 0; Heerenveen 4 Nimegen 1; Deventer 2 Fortuna Sittard 0; Willem Tilburg 1 Volendam 0

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
PSV Eindhoven	23	18	3	2	78	13	57
Ajax	22	18	2	2	72	14	56
Feyenoord	24	11	7	6	46	30	40
Sparta Rotterdam	24	10	8	6	37	38	38
Willem II Tilburg	22	9	9	4	40	27	36
Vitesse Arnhem	23	10	6	7	37	33	36
Heerenveen	23	9	9	5	41	41	35
Breda	23	8	9	6	35	26	33
Groningen	22	7	9	6	27	31	30
Wezhrijk	23	8	6	9	25	30	30
Roda	22	7	8	7	23	26	29
Twente Enschede	22	8	5	9	27	33	29
Fortuna Sittard	24	5	8	11	17	38	23
Nijmegen	25	4	7	14	26	59	19
Deventer	21	3	7	11	26	42	16
Utrecht	22	3	7	12	16	39	16
Dordrecht	23	3	7	13	27	46	16
Volendam	22	3	5	14	15	49	14

SPANISH LEAGUE: Real Madrid 5 Salamanca 0; Athletic Bilbao 0 FC Barcelona 0; Valladolid 3 Racing Santander 1; Espanyol 0 Seville 1; Merida 1 Real Sociedad 2 Real Betis 3 Valencia 0; Zaragoza 3 Albacete 1; Oviedo 3 Compostela 1; Celta Vigo 0 Sporting G 0; Rayo Vallecano 2 Tenerife 4.
FRENCH LEAGUE: Le Havre 1 Bastia 0; Montpellier 1 St Etienne 0; Cannes 3 Gueugamp 0; Lens 2 Guesgnon 0; Auxerre 4 Marigues 0; Metz 4 Nice 0; Rennes 0 Paris St Germain 1, Strasbourg 2 Lille 0; Lyon 1 Bordeaux 0; Monaco 4 Nantes 1.
GERMAN LEAGUE: Eintracht Frankfurt 0 SC Freiburg 1; Bayern Munich 4 Munich 1860 2; Cologne 0 Karlsruhe 1; Schalke 04 3 Hamburg 0; Borussia Moenchengladbach 2 Borussia Dortmund 2; VfB Stuttgart 2 Kaiserslautern 0.
OLYMPIC QUALIFIER, HARARE: Zimbabwe 0 Nigeria 1.

NON LEAGUE AND NATIONAL LEAGUES

UNIBOND

PREMIER DIVISION: Accrington Stanley 0 Emley 0; Bishop Auckland 1 Bamber Bridge 1; Colwyn Bay 0 Leek 0; Gainsborough 7 Droylsden 1; Knowsley 1 Matlock 0; Marine 1 Buxton 1, Winsford 2 Blyth Spartans 4, Witton 1 Barrow 0

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Bamber Bridge	31	17	11	3	53	30	62
Hyde Utd	29	15	6	7	62	29	54
Barrow	30	14	10	6	51	29	52
Boston Utd	32	16	4	12	59	43	52
Witton Alb	30	16	4	10	48	41	52
Gainsborough	29	14	9	6	46	27	51
Guiseley	29	13	8	8	43	33	47
Emley	29	13	7	9	40	32	46
Blyth Spartans	27	11	8	8	49	41	41
* Accrington S	30	11	11	8	44	41	41
Spennymoor	30	9	13	8	43	41	40
Bishop Auckland	32	10	9	13	41	46	39
Knowsley	32	11	5	16	46	65	38
Leek Town	31	8	12	11	40	39	36
Marine	27	9	9	9	29	31	36
Chorley	28	10	5	13	47	48	35
Colwyn Bay	29	6	13	10	25	37	31
Winsford Utd	28	6	12	10	31	48	30
* Frickley	30	7	10	13	43	54	28
Droylsden	31	6	7	18	40	62	25
Matlock	30	5	8	17	48	58	23
Buxton	30	4	9	17	27	60	21

* Three points deducted

FIRST DIVISION: Atherton LR 0 Alfreton 0; Curzon Ashton 4 Ashton United 2; Farsley Celtic 3 Workington 0; Fleetwood 0 Whitley Bay 0; Great Harwood 1 Congleton 2; Gretna 1 Bradford P A 1, Lancaster 2 Netherfield 2; Leigh 2 Harrogate Town 0, Lincoln United 2 Eastwood Town 0; Worksop 2 Warrington 3

BEAZER HOMES

PREMIER DIVISION: Atherstone 0 Newport AFC 0, Burton 1 Halesowen 1; Chelmsford 1 Worcester 0; Cheltenham 0 Gravesend and Northfl 0; Gloucester 1 VS Rugby 1, Ilkeston 1 Hastings 0; Salisbury 1 Cambridge City 0

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Rushden & D	28	21	5	2	74	26	68
Halesowen	28	16	8	4	49	30	56
Gloucester	28	14	7	7	51	32	49
Cheltenham	28	14	7	8	51	42	49
Merthyr	28	15	3	10	51	45	48
Worcester	27	13	7	7	43	30	46
Burton	28	11	8	10	41	33	41
Chelmsford	28	11	8	9	35	34	41
Hastings	27	11	7	9	49	41	40
Baldock Tn	29	10	9	10	42	38	39
Gresley Rovers	25	11	6	8	38	34	39
Newport AFC	25	10	7	8	38	34	37
Gravesend & N	27	10	6	11	44	49	36
Salisbury	27	10	3	14	39	45	33
Cambridge City	28	9	6	13	38	44	33
Sudbury Tn	24	8	6	10	39	42	30
Coventry Town	28	6	11	11	34	44	29
Dorchester	26	8	4	13	42	38	28
Atherstone	28	6	8	14	41	55	26
Stafford	28	7	5	16	33	66	23
Weston Tn	28	5	3	18	32	58	20
VS Rugby	28	4	7	17	25	62	19

MIDLAND DIVISION: Bedworth 3 Bury Town 2; Bridgnorth 1 Sutton Coldfield 2; Corby 1 Nuneaton 3, Evesham 3 Bilston 2; Grantham 3 Tamworth 1; Kings Lynn 2 Moor Green 0; Leicester United 1 Solihull 0; Paget 1 R C Warwick 0; Redditch 2 Dudley Town 6; Rothwell 3 Buckingham Town 1.

Southern division: Bashley 0 Sittingbourne 1; Braintree 3 Havant 0; Cinderford 1 Witney 0; Erith and Belvedere 0 Tonbridge Angels 1; Fisher 93 3 Yate 3, Forest Green 4 Fareham 5; Margate 1 Clevedon 2; Newport I C W 0 Weston-super-Mare 3; Poole 0 Ashford 4; Walton&Hersh 3 Fleet 0; Weymouth 0 Trowbridge 1

ICIS

PREMIER DIVISION: Aylesbury 2 Chertsey 0; Bishop's Stortford 2 Grays 0; Bromley 2 Hendon 5; Dulwich 2 Molesey 0; Harrow 0 Sutton United 0; Hayes 2 Kingstonian 1; Purfleet 1 Yeading 2; St Albans 5 Hitchin 1; Walton and Hersham 1 Yeovil 3

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
St Albans	30	17	8	5	56	24	59
Dulwich	27	17	7	3	60	33	58
Enfield	27	17	4	6	51	19	55
Yeovil	29	16	7	6	63	39	55
Hayes	27	14	9	4	42	21	51
Kingstonian	28	14	8	6	43	22	50
Boreham Wood	26	14	7	5	39	20	49
Carshalton	24	14	4	6	45	33	46
Aylesbury	26	12	8	6	43	26	44
Harrow Borough	26	12	8	6	44	35	44
Sutton Utd	29	11	10	8	47	38	43
Bishop's S	27	12	7	8	38	30	43
Grays	28	8	8	12	32	41	32
Chertsey T	28	9	4	15	30	44	31
Hitchin	28	8	6	14	31	51	30
Yeading	29	6	10	13	26	40	28
Purfleet	26	6	6	14	32	45	24
Molesey	28	5	5	18	22	55	20
Hendon	26	4	7	15	25	47	19
Walton & H	27	5	3	19	24	51	18
Worthing	28	4	6	18	29	68	18
Bromley	28	4	4	20	27	69	16

FIRST DIVISION: Barton 2 Wokingham 2; Bognor Regis 0 Uxbridge 2; Chesham 2 Basingstoke 2; Leyton Pennant 3 Berkhamsted 1; Maidenhead United 1 Staines 0, Marlow 3 Ruislip Manor 2; Oxford City 3 Abingdon Town 3; Thame 1 Heybridge Swifts 1; Tooting and Mitcham 0 Aldershot Town 2, Wembley 2 Billericay 2; Whyteleafe 2 Barking 0

Second division: Banstead 2 Dorking 2; Bedford Town 1 Hungerford 0; Chalfont St Peter 0 Hemel Hempstead 1, Croydon 4 Metropolitan Police 1; Edgware 3 Bracknell 1; Hampton 1 Egham 0; Leatherhead 0 Saffron Walden 1; Tilbury 3 Cheshunt 1; Witham 0 Collier Row 0; Wivenhoe 1 Ware 0.

Third division: Aveley 3 Camberley 2, Clapton 2 Epsom and Ewell 4; Cove 0 Northwood 2; Harefield 0 Southall 0; Harlow 2 Flackwell Heath 3; Horsham 2 Hornchurch 1; Leighton 2 East Thurrock 3; Lewes 2 Wingate and Finchley 2; Tring 3 Kingsbury 3; Windsor and Eton 0 Wealdstone 2.

FA TROPHY: Third round: Boreham Wood 1 Chorley 1; Guiseley 1 Grasley 2, Hyde 3 Carshalton 2; Macclsfld 1 Sudbury 0; Merthyr 1 Northwich 1; Radcliffe 1 Gateshead 2, Stevenage 3 Kettering 0, Bath 1 Bromsgrove 1

FA VASE: Sixth round replay: Raunds T 0 Mangotsfield 1.

ESSEX SENIOR LEAGUE: Premier division: Basildon 3 Hullbridge Sports 1; Burnham Ramblers 0 Brantwood 0; Concord 1 Ford United 2; Eton Manor 2 Stanstead 1. League cup: Semi-final: Second leg: Romford 2 Great Wakering 0.

LONDON SPARTAN LEAGUE: Premier division: Barkingside 4 Brook House 0; Croydon Athletic 1 Hillingdon Boro 0; Hanwell Town 1 Cockfosters 2; St Margaretsbury 0 Amersham Town 2; Tottenham Ornada 1 Corinthian Casuals 2; Tulmell Park 1 Waltham Abbey 2; Wilesdon (Hawkeye) 2 Beaconsfield SYCOB 2; Woolwich Town 1 Bramsdown Rovers 3.

COMBINED COUNTIES LEAGUE: Premier division: Ash 0 Ashford 0; Cobham 2 Hartley Wintney 0; Cranleigh 2 Chipstead 5; Eton Wick 2 Mersham 0; Peppard 1 Sandhurst 2, Walton Casuals 0 Horley 2; Westfield 1 Viking Sports 1.

GREAT MILLS LEAGUE: Premier division: Backwell 1 Torrington 1; Bideford 1 Westbury 0; Brislington 3 Paulton 1; Calne 2 Frome 1; Chippenham 1 Bridport 1; Ashford 4; Watton&Beville 3 Fleet 0; Weymouth 0 Trowbridge 1

JEWSON EASTERN COUNTIES LEAGUE: Premier division: Clacton 0 Wroxham 3; Felixstowe 1 Newmarket 1; Haverhill 1 Watton 2; Lowestoft 0 Hadleigh 1; March 0 Great Yarmouth 1; Sudbury 1 Wisbech 2; Harwich and Parkeston 3 Stowmarket 2; Tiptree 3 Soham 1. League Cup: Semi-finals: Diss 0 Halstead 1; Fakenham 2 Woodbridge 0.

JEWSON WESSEX LEAGUE: First division: Aerostructures 1 Swanage and Herston 3; Lymington 0 BAT 0; Totton 0 Thatcham 2; Bournemouth 1 Andover 2; Cowes Sports 0 Christchurch 1; Downton 0 Ryde Sports 2; East Cowes 2 Eastleigh 2; Petersfield 1 Bemerton Heath Harl 3.

UNIVET SUSSEX COUNTY LEAGUE: First division: Arundel 1 Langney Sports 1; Burgess Hill 1 Hassocks 2; Crowborough 1 Shoreham 4; Hailsham 0 Wick 0; Mile Oak 1 Horsham YMCA 2; Oakwood 2 Whitehawk 0; Southwick 2 Portfield 0; Three Bridges 0 Ringmer 3. Postponed: Eastbourne Town v Pagham; Peacehaven and Telscombe v Saimco.

WINSTONLEAD KENT LEAGUE: First division: Canterbury 0 Herne Bay 1; Chatham 3 Hythe 1, Corinthian 2 Thomesmead 1; Cray 0 Furness 1; Crockenhill 2 Faversham 0; Deal 4 Tunbridge Wells 1; Folkestone Invicta 0 Whitstable 2; Ramsgate 1 Slade Green 1; Sheppey 1 Dartford 3.

HELLENIC LEAGUE: Premier division: Abingdon United 0 Lambourn Sports 1; Banbury 3 Endsleigh 1; Bicester 0 Almondsbury 0; Burnham 1 Fairford 0; Carterton 0 Cirencester 1, Didcot 4 Highworth 2, Kintbury 2 Swindon Supermarine 3, North Leigh 0 Tuffley 2; Shortwood 2 Brackley 2.

HEREWARD SPORTS LIMITED COUNTIES LEAGUE: Premier division: Cogenhoe 1 Wellingborough 0; Desborough 5 Bourne 0; Holbeach 5 Newport Pagnell 0; Kempston 1 S and L Corby 7; Potton 0 Northampton Spencer 4; Stamford 3 Long Buckby 2; Stotfold 1 Meriews B 1; Wootton 2 Spalding 3

INTERLINK EXPRESS MIDLAND ALLIANCE: Boldmere St Michaels 4 Hinckley Athletic 2; Bolehall Swifts 1 Shepshed Dynamo 3; Kynnersley 4 Rushall Olympic 1; Oldbury 2 Willenhall 0; Pershore 0 Barwell 2; Rocester 1 Chasetown 1; Sandwell 2 Stratford 1; Shifnal 1 Blakenall 1; West Midlands Police 2 Halesowen Harriers 1

ENDSLEIGH MIDLAND COMBINATION: Premier division: Arnolls 1 Upton 0; Chasetown 2 Wolverhampton 0; Coventry Sphinx 2 Northfield 0; Highgate 1 Meir KA 3, Kings Heath 3 Massey Ferguson 2; Olton Royale 0 Knowle 0; Shirley 1 Handsheh Timbers 1; Southam 2 West Midland Fire Service 0

BANK'S BREWERY LEAGUE: Premier division: Bilbrook 3 Tividale 1; Brierley Hill 1 Lichfield 1; Cradley 1 Stafford 6; Darlaston 0 Ettingshall Hi 1; Hill Top 0 Walsall Wood 2; Ludlow 1 Gornal 3; Lye 0 Stourport 0; Pelsall Villa 3 Westfields 1; Wolverhampton Casuals 0 Wednesfield 6.

NORTHERN COUNTIES EAST LEAGUE: Premier division: Ashfield 2 Goole 1; Bolper Town 1 Armthorpe Welfare 1; Glasshoughton Welfare 2 Hatfield Main 4; Hallam 2 Ossett Albion 3, Hucknall 3 Sheffield 0; Liversedge 5 Maltby MW 2; North Ferriby 0 Stocksbridge PS 1; Ossett Town 2 Brigg 0, Pickering 2 Arnold 2; Thackley 2 Donaby 3

NORTH WEST COUNTIES LEAGUE: First division: Bootle 0 Trafford 3; Chadderton 0 Glossop North End 1; Clitheroe 1 Flixton 0; Darwen 0 Blackpool Rovers 3; Eastwood Hanley 1 Burscough 0; Holker Old Boys 5 St Helens 1, Mashc Road 1 Salford 1; Newcastle Town 4 Prescot 2; Rossendale 1 Mossley 6, Penrith 3 Nantwich 3; Skelmersdale 2 Kidsgrove 4.

AVON INSURANCE COMBINATION: First division: Arsenal 3 Chelsea 0.

FEDERATION BREWERY NORTHERN LEAGUE: First division: Consett 2 Chester-le-Street 1; Crook 0 Dunston Federation 0; Durham 1 RTM Newcastle 0; Murton 1 Seaham Red Star 1, Shildon 1 Bedlington 3; Stockton 4 Guisborough 5; West Auckland 3 Ferryhill 1; Whickham 0 Tow Law 1. Postponed: Whitby v Peterlee.

SOUTHERN OLYMPIAN LEAGUE: Senior one: Hale End Athletic 4 St Marys College 0; Nottsborough 2 Albanian 2; Old Grammarians 1 Old Owens 1; Southgate County 5 Ulysses 2. Senior two: Corinthian Casuals 2 Wandsworth Borough 2; Hadley 3 City Of London 2; Old Beaconians 3 Honourable Artillery Co 4, Old Woodhouseians 0 Old Finchleians 6

FA WOMEN'S LEAGUE: Southern division: Oxford 2 Ipswich 0; Three Bridges 5 Brentford 2. Northern division: Gameswood St Helens 3 Bronte 0; R T M Newcastle 2 Tranmere Rovers 8.

FA WOMEN'S PREMIER LEAGUE: National League: Millwall Lionesses 0 Arsenal 0; Wembley 4 Ilkeston 0; Liverpool F C Ladies 7 Villa Azteca 0

UK LIVING WOMEN'S FA CUP: Sixth round: Croydon 1 Doncaster Belles 0 (aet)

NATIONAL

LEAGUE OF WALES: Barry 1 Caernarfon 0; Caersws 3 Connah's Q 2; Cemaes Bay 2 Newtown 4; Conwy 2 Ton Pentre 2; Cwmbran 4 Flint 12; Ebbw Vale 1 Porthmadog 3; Holywell 2 Afan Lido 0; Llansantffraid 3 Inter C 2; Rhyl 1 Aberystwyth 2

HIGHLAND LEAGUE: Brora 0 Wick Academy 2, Clachnacuddin 2 Buckie Thistle 1; Deveronvale 2 Peterhead 4; Elgin 0 Cove 0, Forres Mechanics 2 Lossiemouth 3, Fraserburgh 5 Fort William 0; Huntly 4 Nairn County 0; Rothes 0 Keith 1

SMIRNOFF IRISH LEAGUE: Premier division: Ards 1 Linfield 2, Cliftonville 1 Bangor 1; Glentoran 1 Glenavon 2; Portadown 1 Coleraine 1. First division: Ballyclare 0 Distillery 3; Coleraine 4 Ballymena 0; Larne 1 Omagh 3, Newry 1 Carrick 0

POOLS CHECK

| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 | 10 | 11 | 12 |

Goram assaulted as Rangers maintain leading edge

KEVIN McCARRA



Scottish commentary

A day of rancour and upheaval could not disrupt the serenity of Rangers' progress in the Bell's Scottish League premier division yesterday. A 2-0 victory over Hibernian at Easter Road maintained their three-point lead, but the audience failed to keep so steady a control of their emotions.

Rangers' second goal, in the 71st minute, came after Farrell had impeded Gascoigne, however faintly, to bring a penalty, converted by Laudrup. Leighton, outraged by the decision, bawled at Gascoigne, who responded, and both earned bookings. Their lack of discipline was to be echoed and amplified around the ground.

As police were restoring order among a section of the home crowd, a Hibernian supporter ran on and attacked Andy Goram, the Rangers goalkeeper, who required treatment for a cut on the nose after his assailant had been hauled away. Hibernian intend to ban the supporter from Easter Road for life.

If scarcely as deplorable as that supporter's conduct, too much of the game itself was compelling only because of its fevered unruliness. Damage was inevitable in so abrasive a fixture and Gough, the Rangers captain, tore calf muscles. He will be missing for up to six weeks.

Attempts at graceful play were rarely tolerated and it was fitting that the first goal, after 30 minutes, should stem from an error. Laudrup eased himself away from Miller, Jackson and McGinlay before flighting a cross straight to Mitchell, the Hibernian left back, who skewed a header into his own net.

In the midst of all the misapplied energy was Erik Bo Andersen, signed by Rangers from Aalborg last week for around £1.4 million. Understandably, he found it hard to make sense of an afternoon that had incoherence at its very heart.

After an unobtrusive debut, the Denmark striker may have left Easter Road wondering just how he is supposed to acclimatise to such an environment.

It remains to be seen whether there will be another costly immigrant attempting the same process in Glasgow. Celtic's discovery, last week, that their signing of Jorge Cadete, the Portugal international, was invalid since he is, in Fifa's judgment, still under contract to Sporting Lisbon, was deeply embarrassing to the club. At least, however, the Celtic players showed no desire to hide from public view.

Instead, they flaunted their talents, scoring the first three goals of their 4-0 victory over Heart of Midlothian within the opening 18 minutes of the match at Celtic Park on Saturday. Heart of Midlothian were severely discomfited not only by the opposition's flair but also by the absence of Gilles Rousset, their usual goalkeeper. Craig Nelson, his deputy, and the rest of the Midlothian defence performed as if baffled by one another.

Nonetheless, the most telling factor in the game was the zest of Celtic. It overwhelmed not only the Edinburgh side but also the whole furore surrounding Cadete. The acquisition of a forward with such a reputation remains a matter of urgency, but nobody in the home support on Saturday night will have believed that the future of the club depended on it.

Celtic remain hopeful that they will complete the signing of Cadete this week. The club is willing to negotiate a transfer fee with Sporting Lisbon, who have been embroiled in a dispute with the player since November, and the attitude of Cadete himself may be the only obstacle to the clinching of a deal.

While under the misapprehension that he was a free agent, Cadete signed a contract, now void, that tied him to Celtic only until the summer. Tommy Burns, the club's manager, will, however, be willing to spend a substantial fee on him only if the forward is prepared to commit himself to a few years in Glasgow. With the possibility of a trial period gone, Cadete must decide whether he is ready to embrace Scottish football.

Burns will be exercising his powers of persuasion and there is also to be a bout of wooing from Rangers this week. The club's attempt to buy Ulf Kirsten from Bayer Leverkusen should reach some form of conclusion when Walter Smith, the Rangers manager, meets the German centre forward on Wednesday. Like Cadete, Kirsten has other options, but the days when the Old Firm were merely humble supplicants are, in any case, long gone.

Patience of Ebdon opens the way for early gain

FROM PHIL YATES IN VALLETTA, MALTA

UNAFFECTED by a bomb scare that caused a 55-minute delay, Peter Ebdon established a 5-3 lead over John Parrott in the best-of-17-frame final of the European Open snooker tournament at the Mediterranean Conference Centre here yesterday.

The call, which turned out to be a hoax, was received at Malta's police headquarters during the mid-session interval and a team of sniffer dogs was brought in to search the auditorium.

At the time, the score was 2-2, but, when play belatedly resumed after the official all-clear was given, it was Ebdon who seized control by employing the brand of mistake-free snooker that has helped him to develop into one of the game's most feared exponents.

Ebdon, the winner of the invitation Rothmans Malta Grand Prix here four months ago, compiled breaks of 83 in successive frames to move 4-2 ahead before salvaging the seventh from 50 points in arrears.

Having gone in-off attempting a safety shot on the penultimate red, Parrott watched Ebdon double it to

Results 33

embark on a 31 clearance to pink for 5-2. Even though Parrott responded by winning the closing frame of the afternoon, he was left requiring six of the remaining nine in order to capture the European Open title for the third time and collect a first prize of £60,000.

Ebdon had reached his fourth final of a highly consistent season on Saturday by beating Andy Hicks 6-3. Parrott emerged from a semi-final against Joe Swail that combined drama and a succession of free-scoring exchanges with a 6-5 victory.

When Parrott led 5-1, after fashioning clearances of 110 and 120, he looked set for a comfortable passage, but Swail won the next four frames in only 48 minutes before Parrott put together a 57 break early in the deciding frame direct from Swail's missed red to a middle pocket.

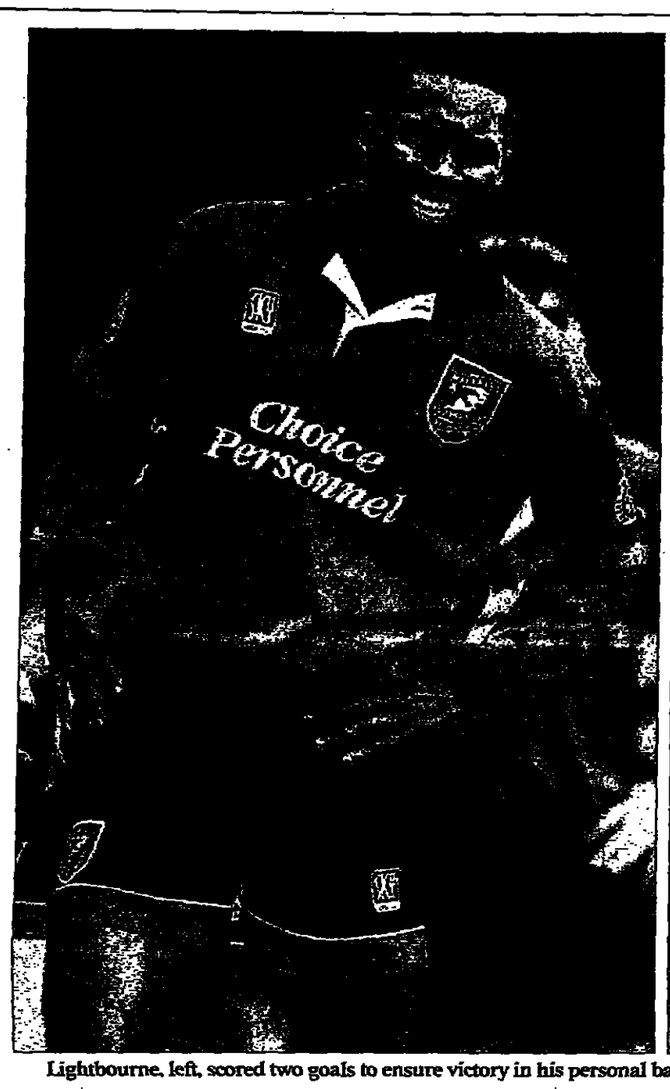
"It was the best I've played since I won the world championship in 1991, and I could still have easily lost the match," Parrott said.

Hicks's defeat was his sixth in as many semi-finals this season. Ebdon led 2-0, but Hicks fought back to draw level at the interval. The match swung back Ebdon's way after Hicks miscued on the final pink of the seventh frame with the score tied at 3-3.

Bermuda's exports in collision next to M6

Keith Pike sees an unlikely reunion of international team-mates grace Walsall's 3-1 win over Rotherham

PHOTOGRAPHS: MARC ASPLAND





Lightbourne, left, scored two goals to ensure victory in his personal battle with Goater, his compatriot, at the Bescot Stadium on Saturday

FROM the jewels of the Continent (Ginola) to the journeymen (Jensen), from the decidedly exotic South American (Juninho) to the seemingly neurotic one (Asprilla), England now provides the stage for a veritable A to Z — Albania to Zimbabwe — of world football. More than 170 players from nearly 50 nations are now accepted for their range of talents and temperaments, if only grudgingly by the xenophobic "Johnny Foreigner" brigade.

It is a strengthening tide, and one that threatens to become a post-Bosman judgment flood. Yet, even so, what odds might have been obtained just a few years ago that, on Saturday, at Walsall's Bescot Stadium in the shadow of the M6, two Bermuda international strikers would line up on opposite sides, albeit in the lower reaches of their Endsleigh Insurance League second division? Long — longer still if the bookmaker had realised that the entire population of the Atlantic island could fit into Old Trafford next season.

Historical it was not: that moment had come at Millmoor on Boxing Day, when Kyle Lightbourne's Walsall had inflicted a 1-0 home defeat on Shaun Goater's Rotherham United. Hysterical it very nearly was, though, as Lightbourne scored the first and third goals in Walsall's 3-1 triumph in the return. Lightbourne could see the funny side of it, anyway: both his goals were due, in part, to comical defending by Goater's team-mates, although the finishing was instinctive and impressive.

"Yes, I suppose I'm 2-0 up on Shaun," Lightbourne, at 27 and 6ft 2in a year older and an inch taller than his compatriot, said. There was some doubt as to whether Goater would again be buying the drinks. Close friends even before Lightbourne followed Goater's transatlantic path, they had used the first match as an excuse for their families to enjoy part of Christmas together at Goater's Rotherham home. Now, Lightbourne's chance to reciprocate was under threat. "I've a feeling that John [McGovern, the Rotherham joint manager] will want us in for Sunday training," Goater said.

They share much more than their nationality: both have been among the most consistent goalscorers in the lower divisions in recent seasons, both are out of contract in the summer and anxious to play at the highest level possible, and both are deeply troubled by the fall-out from the so-called "Miami Seven Affair", that has rocked the sport back home.

The crisis erupted in December, when seven members of a Bermuda Under-23 team, returning from a qualifying match in Jamaica for the Pan-American Games, were arrested at Miami airport after drugs were found concealed in the soles of their shoes. Jailed (briefly) and, on their return, banned (lengthily), their actions threw Bermudian football into turmoil.

The Bermuda FA launched a national inquiry, due to report this week, and withdrew from the qualifying competition for the 1998 World Cup. Clyde Best, the bulky striker who blazed a trail for black as well as Bermudian footballers with West Ham United in the early 1970s, and who now lives in California, is strongly fancied to fill the vacant position of national coach.

The players' personal disappointment is a secondary consideration, however. "The trouble is that, with all the work permit problems, the lack of international football will make it much harder for other youngsters to come to England," Goater said. "I believe very strongly that we have young players with the talent and technique to make an impact here." Lightbourne added. "It is terribly sad. The best way for me and Shaun to help to develop young players in Bermuda is by what we do on the pitch for our country."

Sporting heroes in their homeland — Lightbourne has also opened the bowling for the Bermuda cricket team, while Goater is fêted on his annual return to host junior soccer schools — they recognise that England is now the most welcoming, natural target for overseas players.

There might be an unhealthy mix of too many matches played at too fast a pace — and Hartlepool on a January evening is cold in anybody's language — but that is outweighed by the absence of suspicion among supporters and fellow players. As if to emphasise the point, the man of the match on Saturday was Ntamark, the Walsall full back, who has played for Cameroon.

WALSALL (4-4-2): T Wood — C Ntamark, D Mountfield, A Viveash, D Rogers — C Marsh, D Bradley (sub: J Kaster, 46min), M O'Connor, S Houghton (sub: M Butler, 84) — K Wilson, I Lightbourne
ROTHERHAM UNITED (4-4-2): M Clarke — P Blades, I McLean, I Breckin, G Bowyer — T Berry, N Richardson, D Garner, A Roscoe — N Jemson, S Goater
Referee: I Cruickshanks.

Clark may not risk Pearce

BY OUR SPORTS STAFF

STUART PEARCE, the inspirational captain of Nottingham Forest, seems almost certain to miss the first leg of their Uefa Cup quarter-final against Bayern Munich in Germany tomorrow.

Pearce, the England defender, who has been out of action for six weeks because of a calf injury, will travel with the squad today, and Frank Clark, the Forest manager, insists that he has not yet been ruled out, but, with Forest having so many other injury worries, it is most unlikely that Clark will gamble on Pearce's fitness.

Yesterday, Clark was monitoring the progress of Ian Woan, Steve Stone and Andrea Silenzi, who all missed the 3-1 FA Carling Premiership win against Sheffield Wednesday at Hillsborough on Saturday. Colin Cooper, the centre half, who was outstanding in Forest's victories over Malmö, Auxerre and Lyons in earlier rounds, is out because of suspension.

"Pearce has less than a 50-50 chance," Clark said. "If it were any other player, I would say it was 90-10 against, but he's a special case. We'd like to have him on the field in Munich because his presence means so much to us. Although he's not played, he's been training hard the past few days, and because it is him you might be prepared to take a risk.

"But we've got another big game coming up at Tottenham on Saturday [in an FA Cup fifth-round replay] and I wouldn't want him playing on Tuesday if it meant him doing more damage to the injury and being out a lot longer."

Pearce believes that Forest can spring a surprise with their counter-attacking strategy, which is ideally suited to European football. "We've done well to get this far and people will probably be writing us off now because Bayern are obviously a top-class team, but we've survived some tough games in Europe with our spirit and style of play," he said. "I think we've recognised our limitations while other British clubs have thrown caution to the wind and really gone for it."

Woan, the in-form winger, is expected to pass a fitness test on a sore knee, and Silenzi, the striker, should recover in time from a virus for a possible place on the substitutes' bench, alongside Bobby Howe and Paul McGregor, the two young forwards who were on target at Hillsborough. However, a glandular disorder that forced Clark to send Stone home from the team's hotel in Sheffield is a more serious worry.

☐ Barry Fry was yesterday negotiating his 52nd signing in 27 months as the manager of Birmingham City, the first division club, after agreeing an exchange deal with York City for Paul Barnes. Birmingham will pay York £175,000 for the former Stoke City striker, provided that Gary Bull agrees to move in the opposite direction.

Effortless Alphand seals World Cup

LUC ALPHAND, of France, secured his second successive Alpine World Cup downhill title in Hakuba, Japan, yesterday without having to put his skis on. Thick fog on the Happo One hill course, built for the 1998 Winter Olympics, stopped a planned early-morning downhill race, already cancelled on Friday and Saturday because of bad weather. Peter Runggaldier, of Italy, won the super giant slalom that went ahead later in the day.

Alphand's 173-point lead over Patrick Ortlieb, of Austria, the world champion, cannot be beaten with one race remaining, in Norway next weekend. He won his first World Cup title last year by taking two races in a day in Kitzbühel and has won three downhills in the 1995-1996 season.

"It was a bit special today, winning the World Cup title by staying in bed," Alphand, 30, said, "but I really wanted to race before the fans, and I hope you will see me go all out in Norway next week."

Organisers had planned an 8am start, the earliest in World Cup history, in an effort to catch up with the backlog. It proved impossible, though, to begin racing with fog still shrouding the hill.

Runggaldier, 27, the 1994-95 super giant slalom champion, who started twelfth, was helped to his first victory in a year by his Italy teammates, who warned him of the conditions.

"My team-mates radioed that the jump was difficult and the surface would be bumpy and loose," he said. He beat the times set by Atle Skaardal, of Norway, clocking 1min 34.60sec, 0.28sec faster than Skaardal. Hans Knaus, of Austria, finished 0.12sec further back. Skaardal's placing, however, puts him at the top of the super giant slalom rankings.

Gresley bravura pays off

Guiseley 1
Gresley Rovers 2

BY WALTER GAMMIE

TWO teams with a place in Wembley folklore met for the first time since their classic FA Vase final of 1991 in an FA Umbro Trophy third-round tie at Nethermoor on Saturday. If the match did not live up to their celebrated final — won by Guiseley in a replay, after an epic 4-4 draw — it was a raw, exciting contest that gave the partisans in a 790 crowd plenty to shout about.

Gresley surprised Guiseley by taking the game to them with sharp, positive football that brought goals for Evans and O'Reilly and put them in control at half-time.

Guiseley, throwing on an extra forward in Taylor and primed by some incisive passing from Brockie, responded with increasing pressure that produced a string of chances but only one goal. Paul Wardle, the Gresley defender, could not keep out a flicked near-post header by Norbury from a corner in the eightieth minute. So wasteful were the Guiseley forwards, so energetically defiant Ford in the Gresley goal, that justice was probably served.

Over the proceedings hung memories of Wembley 1991 — marked by presentations and a five-years-on souvenir programme — that did so much to fire the rapid rise of Guiseley and Gresley to positions a level below the Vauxhall Conference, in the UniBond and Beazer Homes premier divisions respectively.

The clubs have matched each other pace for pace except in one vital respect. Whereas Gresley have been given the go-ahead to develop a new stadium suitable for Conference football half-a-mile from their cramped Moat Ground, Guiseley have been left reeling by Leeds City Council's refusal to allow them to establish a new home up the road at Thorpe Lane.

Gary Douglas, the Guiseley chairman, is pondering three choices: lodging an appeal for a scheme that had planning approval but foundered on residents' objections, submitting designs for the substantial redevelopment needed to council-owned Nethermoor, or accepting an offer from Keighley Cougars, the rugby league club, to have winter use of their stadium.

Douglas admits that the Cougars' offer is tempting. "The ground there is ready-made for the Football League," he said. "Keighley's a big area without football, but its eight miles away and we've got to listen to our supporters." Like every chairman, Douglas knows that to stand still is to risk losing everything that so much hard work has acquired. "We've got to decide by the end of the season," he said.

GUISELEY (4-4-2): S Dickinson — P Atkinson, P Bottomley, P Kendall (sub: S Taylor, 52min), C Hogarth — M Cook, L Thew (sub: A Outhart, 78), V Brockie (sub: M Flanagan, 83), W Roberts — L James, M Norbury
GRESLEY ROVERS (4-4-2): S Ford — R Wardle, P Wardle, S Evans, B Horseman — G Castellano, R Denby, A Marsden, G Fowkes (sub: S Guyett, 84) — A Garner (sub: M Hurst, 72), J O'Reilly (sub: K Allsop, 89).
Referee: D Pugh



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LONDON MONARCHS

Muscular Ireland make visitors pay for their mistakes

Wales undermined by errors

Ireland	30
Wales	17

FROM GERALD DAVIES IN DUBLIN

BOTH teams entered this contest in need of what Murray Kidd, the Ireland coach, referred to as "positive reinforcement". Whatever other merits a team may show — honesty, graft or ambitious fancy — it hardly matters unless a win can be secured now and again.

For Ireland and Wales, in their present travails, it is, indeed, a matter of "now and again". That the elusive victory should have been registered by Ireland in a match of mostly erratic yet often exciting movement will give them only momentary satisfaction. There is, for them, something to build on, even if it is just a boost of their morale before they face England.

Wales cannot enjoy even that consolation, nor the compensation of having scored the best tries of the afternoon. Once more, they have to find the resolve to drag themselves up by their boot straps to prepare for France in two weeks' time and the grievous prospect of a whitewash for the second consecutive season. There is no quiet haven for them.

The Ireland pack gave a vigorous, muscular performance, harrying the opposition, capitalising on the many mistakes to which Wales were prone and generally causing the kind of havoc for which they are famed. Ireland's first tries, by Geoghegan and Woods, came largely from errors in Wales's judgment.

They won despite having less of the game than Wales in terms of territory and possession. They had the knack of lifting the pace when it was necessary and, more importantly, knowing where to place the ball to inflict the greatest damage. A success ratio of two-to-one in the lineout should have provided Wales with a comfortable platform, but they rarely matched what Ireland achieved with far less.

The forwards were at the heart of the matter. Costello had a fine match in a back row, who found that their toil in the loose was well supported by Fulcher and Davidson from the second row. Wallace found the necessary drive whenever the try-line beckoned.

FIVE NATIONS' CHAMPIONSHIP

There was cohesion in their efforts that was lacking in Wales's. "We played to our game plan," Jonathan Humphreys, the Wales captain, said, "but we made too many mistakes in playing it." Encapsulated in those remarks is the story of Wales's season.

There were errors in handling and of judgment, as when Ieuan Evans and Leigh Davies began promising counter-attacks only for the vital pass to go astray or be delayed. From four penetrating runs by Leigh Davies in midfield, which spread-eagled the home team's defence, only once did a try result, Evans's first. Hemi Taylor created chances, too, but was left isolated. In addition, Wales were profligate in the 21 penalties and free kicks that they gave away. Their scrummage, it seemed, was under permanent pressure.

There was more. Arwel Thomas had the kind of game that will chill his bones in years to come. Justin Thomas suffered at Twickenham, but it was his namesake's turn on Saturday. The young stand-off half can console himself, as Gareth Edwards said on Saturday evening, that such days have visited all of us; 1970 is a year that he would like to forget. That, too, was at Lansdowne Road. It is how you come to terms with it that matters.

Whatever Thomas did on Saturday seemed to go awry. He failed to pass when Wales broke clear of defence after Mason's long-range penalty fell short; he miscued his first penalty, as he did with an attempted dropped goal later on, and, when his line kick fell short to allow Woods his juggling run for the second try, it was clear that it was not to be Thomas's afternoon.

That mistake followed Geoghegan's try, after Proctor failed to cover Humphreys's teasing chip to the corner. In between, after Leigh Davies's brilliant break, Evans had scored and Thomas coverted to give Wales the lead, but Mason's penalty goal soon restored it to Ireland.

Thomas and Mason exchanged penalty goals before the most breathtaking run of the afternoon led to Evans's second try, which Thomas again converted. At 18-17, Wales might have turned the tables, but Ireland seemed to have the greater hunger and killed off Wales with tries by Fulcher and Corkery.

SCORERS: Ireland: Tries: Geoghegan, Woods, Fulcher, Corkery. Conversions: Mason (2). Penalty goals: Mason (2). Wales: Tries: Evans (2). Conversions: A Thomas (2). Penalty goal: A Thomas.

IRELAND: S Mason (Orrell); S P Geoghegan (Bath), J C Bell (Northampton), M J Field (Malone), N K P J Woods (Blackrock College), D G Humphreys (London Irish), N A Hogan (Terenure College, captain); N J Popplewell (Newcastle), A T H Clarke (Northampton), P S Wallace (Blackrock College), D S Corkery (Cork Constitution), G M Fulcher (Cork Constitution), J W Davidson (Dungannon), W D McBride (Malone), V C P Costello (St Mary's College).

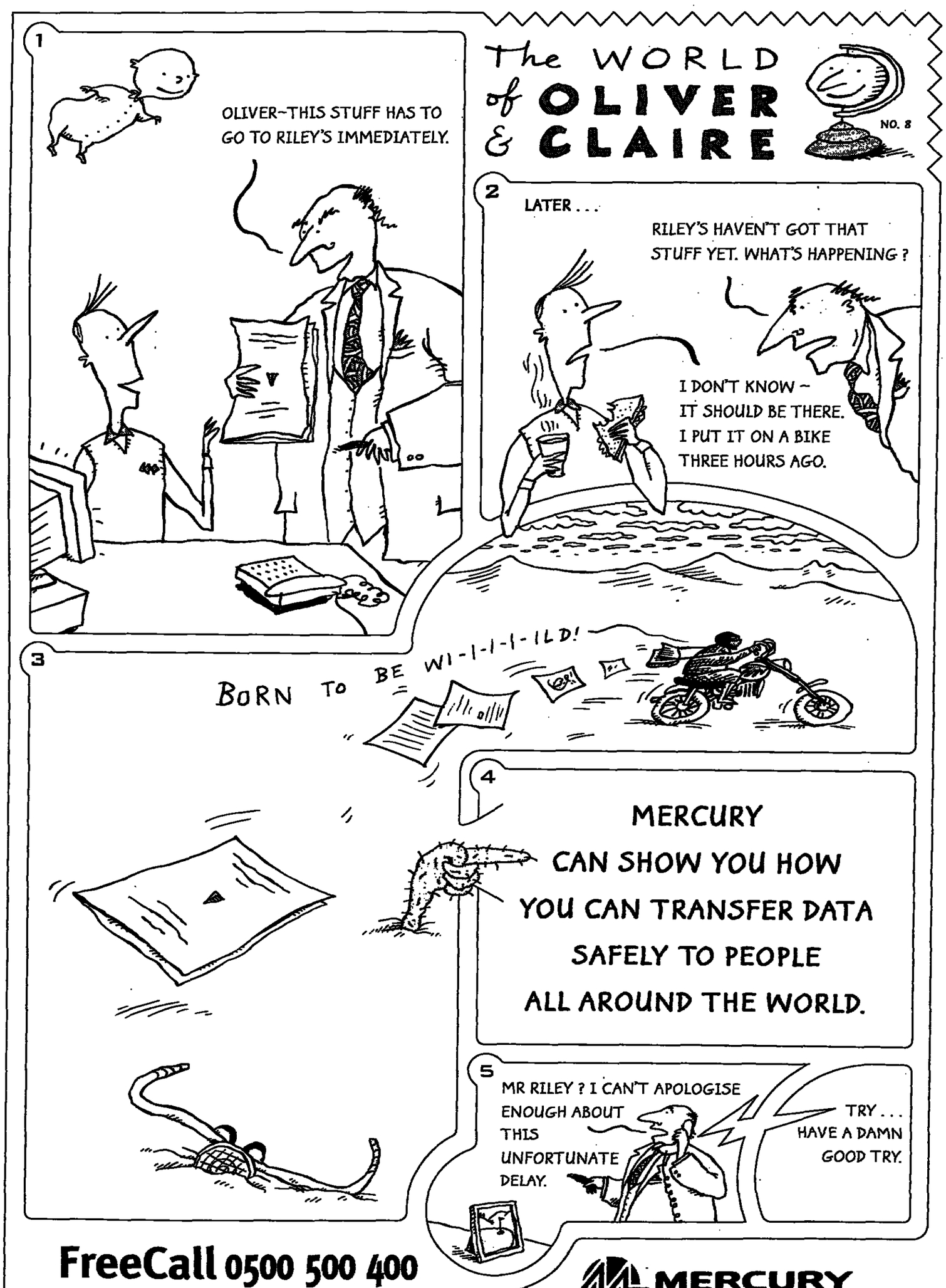
WALES: W J L Thomas (Llanelli); I C Evans (Llanelli), L S Davies (Neath), N G Davies (Llanelli), W T Proctor (Llanelli); A C Thomas (Bristol), R Howley (Bridgend); A L P Lewis (Cardiff), J M Humphreys (Cardiff, captain), J D Davies (Neath), E W Lewis (Cardiff), G O Llewellyn (Neath), D Jones (Cardiff), R G Jones (Llanelli), H T Taylor (Cardiff).

Referee: D Mene (France)

DAVID JONES



Howley, the Wales scrum half, eludes the clutches of Fulcher to launch an attack



Fall of Thomas gives Jenkins a foot in the door



JOHN HOPKINS

At Lansdowne Road

If one book can furnish a room, can two Thomases make a rugby team? Hitherto, there had been no doubting that. The young Thomases — William Justin Lloyd, at full back, and Arwel Camber, at stand-off half — were bulwarks of Wales's exciting team. Exuberant young men, whose combined age totals 45, they are the apprentices whose talents would surely have blossomed fully in time to adorn Wales's new stadium in the 1999 World Cup.

The youthful promise of Justin has not been one whit diminished. The No 15 with the back as straight as a guardsman's did about as much as could be expected of him on an afternoon when Ireland's rugby rediscovered the meaning of rumbustiousness. Two brave catches were reminiscent of J. P. R. Williams; for a Wales full back to have his courage likened to that particular predecessor, it is praise indeed.

Sadly, though, beneath the gaze of Barry John and Phil Bennett, two of the greatest men to wear the red shirt with No 10 on the back, Arwel had his comeuppance. Once, he thought he could walk on water; now, it looked as though his legs had turned to jelly. Two of his kicks led to tries by Ireland. His punts had none of their usual trajectory: his kicks at goal, from the ground and from hand, wobbled woefully left and low. They appeared, in fact, as if they were being forced down towards the ground by the weight of public expectation.

Hail Arwel, the frail-looking, fresh-faced stand-off who constantly looks as unconcerned as if he were playing a game of touch-rugby on the beach. For now, though, it is time, surely, for Wales to return to the known values of Neil Jenkins, the jug-eared Pontypridd stand-off.

Thomas's precocious talents had presented a contrast with those of Jenkins. Thomas ran, looked at ease with the ball in his hand, showed youthful exuberance. Wales have a new coach and are committed to a handling game and Thomas appeared to be the man to orchestrate it. For too long, Jenkins had kicked, with remarkable accuracy, admittedly, and tackled with a courage that outweighed his own pounds and ounces, and run, from time to time. His reputation was that of a kicker, nonetheless.

In Wales, you were for Thomas or for Jenkins, just as, in England not so long ago, you were for Stuart Barnes or for Rob Andrew. Arwel was unfettered by tradition and dogma. He was a Cavalier, Jenkins a Roundhead. Thomas represented the romanticism of Welsh rugby, Jenkins the pragmatism.

"Arwel learnt a lot about decision-making and the pressure of international rugby," Kevin Bowring, the Wales coach, said on Saturday. "He is still very young and has to learn how to control a game." Bowring, patently a kind man and able to understand what Thomas had just been through, bent over backwards to be understanding, not to pile any more pressure on the young man's shoulders. What he did not say was as revealing as what he said.

Jenkins must return for the match against France on March 16. Is this, then, a victory for the dark forces and steely eyes of the pragmatists over the romantics? Hardly. Thomas might have survived for one more match were there not such an outstanding replacement in Jenkins, whose kicking has so often helped to stop Wales's downward plunge these past few years.

To give Thomas one more chance would be to be left open to charges of naivete. For three caps, he has often delighted, but, sadly, there has been an increasing rate of errors, culminating in a performance that he will want to forget as quickly as possible. Lugubrious Welsh voices were heard to mutter that he should feign an injury and leave the field.

So let us say farewell to Arwel Thomas. It is just for now, it is not for ever.

King crowns success

ENGLAND completed a handsome treble in L'Aquila on Saturday, a 22-19 success in the A international over Italy going alongside victories in Scotland by the senior and student teams (David Hands writes). Yet the Italians, stiffened by the presence of eight capped players — and by memories of their rousing win over Scotland in January — forced them all the way.

Indeed, had Scanavacca converted a late penalty, Italy could have earned a draw, although Peter Rossborough, the England manager, regretted his team's inability to take all its opportunities.

Troncon, the experienced Italy scrum half, rivalled Alex King, who scored 17 points for England, as man of the match. Andy Gomarsall, the Wasps scrum half, was in lively form, too, and capitalised with England's try from a tapped penalty.

SCORERS: Italy A: Try: Perziano Conversion: Scanavacca Penalty goals: Scanavacca (4) England A: Try: Gomarsall Conversion: King Penalty goals: King (5)

ITALY A: X Pertile (Rome), M Perziano (Treviso), T Visentin (Treviso), G Filizzola (Calvisano), P Dorsa (Treviso), A Scanavacca (Rovigo), A Troncon (Treviso, captain), A Castellani (L'Aquila), G de Carli (Roma), D Sie Mauro (San Dona), M Grovanelli (Milan), P Alessandro (Rovigo), D Scaglia (Treviso), R Rampazzo (Padova), J Gardner (Treviso).

ENGLAND A: P Hull (Bristol), D O'Leary (Harlequins), P Mensah (Harlequins), A Blyth (West Hartlepool), A Adebayo (Bath), A King (Bristol University), A Gomarsall (Wasps); K Yates (Bath), P Greening (Gloucester), R Hardwick (Coventry), C Sheasby (Harlequins), D Sims (Gloucester), J Fowler (Sale), R Jenkins (Harlequins), A Diprose (Saracens, captain). Blyth replaced by W Greenwood (Harlequins, 78min)

Referee: H Fish (Germany)

Prop in danger of suspension after Murrayfield victory built on strength of Richards

Leonard blow mars England's achievement

Scotland 9
England 18

By David Hands
Rugby Correspondent

ENGLAND'S pleasure at halting Scotland's charge towards a fourth grand slam at Murrayfield on Saturday was soured yesterday: Jason Leonard, the Harlequins prop, has been cited by the Scottish Rugby Football Union (SRFU) for punching Rob Wainwright and the complaint will be referred to Jacky Laurans, of France the independent match commissioner.

There have already been two suspensions on video evidence this season, one self-inflicted by France on Richard Dourthé, the other by the match commissioner at the France v Ireland game which resulted in a ban for Peter Clohessy, of Ireland. Therefore, Leonard stands in danger of a punishment that would keep him out of England's final five nations' championship match, against Ireland on March 16.

FIVE NATIONS' CHAMPIONSHIP

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Scotland	4	3	0	1	60	58	6
France	3	2	0	1	74	41	4
England	3	2	0	1	51	39	4
Ireland	3	1	0	2	50	78	2
Wales	3	0	0	3	46	67	0

RESULTS: France 15 England 12, Ireland 10 Scotland 16; England 21 Wales 15, Scotland 19 France 14; France 45 Ireland 10, Wales 14 Scotland 16; Ireland 30 Wales 17, Scotland 9 England 18

REMAINING MATCHES: March 16: England v Ireland, Wales v France.

A Rugby Football Union (RFU) spokesman said that there had been no opportunity to study the video and no indication of any complaint had arisen immediately after the match: but the incident, midway through the first half, was captured on camera and left Wainwright, the Scotland captain, requiring treatment, with much of the team organisation passing to Gregor Townsend, the vice-captain, and Ian Smith.

Wainwright had no comment to make yesterday but Jim Telfer, the team manager, and Allan Hosie, the SRFU laws convener, felt obliged to act after seeing the video. It is unlikely that any decision will be taken until midweek, by which time the RFU and Laurans will also have seen the evidence.

Whatever the outcome, the gilt has been removed from England's gingerbread, though the challenge implicit in their success remains. Will they be content to try to grasp a triple crown or will they try to retain the championship by scoring as many points as possible against Ireland at Twickenham?

If it is the latter, then even England cannot rely on Paul Grayson to kick enough penalty goals. They will have to score tries by playing the positive rugby that has been Scotland's trade mark this season — until England, in general, and Dean Richards, in particular, squeezed the life from their ambition.

France must now be favoured to win the title thanks to the points that they scored against Ireland. They will take an advantage of 33 into their meeting in Cardiff with Wales while England have a more modest 12. Victory for either side, in yet another fascinating denouement to the championship, will leave Scotland bypassed, their cupboard bare.

Minutes after the game on Saturday was over, Wainwright apologised to the Scottish nation for his team's failure. He had no need. His players had already achieved far more than most had predicted and in a manner that brought more than just the Scots to their feet.

However, in years to come, Scottish mothers may warn their recalcitrant children that, if they do not behave at play, "Deano will take your ball away and you will never get it back". Richards, never on a losing side against Scotland, has become their bogyman and his pleasure at England's victory in the Royal Bank international was apparent, even in that unemotional man.

All this season, Richards has raged — privately, because that is the way he is — at what he believes to be England's departure from their traditional strengths. Had England lost at Murrayfield, he would have been the most convenient of scapegoats; instead, he brought shape and cohesion to his team and though, with two minutes remaining, he limped off with a twisted knee, he is not expected to miss the game with Ireland.

Will this game, though, prove the catharsis that England need to purge themselves of the doubts that have hung over the season and send them out, reinvigorated, against Ireland? In 1988, they won a mess of a match 9-6 at Murrayfield which paved the way for a 35-3, six-try demolition of Ireland: this time, the prize of the championship is greater, the team more experienced.

If that is to happen again, England will have to use their backs. "I would like Jerry Guscott's contract, he doesn't seem to do much for his money," David Johnston muttered ill-advisedly at the post-match conference. The disappointment felt by Johnston, a creative centre himself and now coach to the Scotland backs, is understandable after 80 minutes of stifling rugby when one side would not play a fluent game and the other side could not.

Yet the more experienced Telfer knew exactly what to expect and wisely forbore to become involved in recriminations. Instead, he concentrated on his own team's deficiencies. "A number of our players showed a fair amount of inexperience," he said."

Though it took some time to gain full working order, the Scotland lineout worked efficiently enough to establish a 25-18 advantage, but either they kept ball in hand against an inspired defence or Townsend's kicking was inconsistent. Only once did Townsend, freed by Smith's unexpected lineout win from an England throw, tear aside the defensive screen.

Grayson's four penalty goals to one by Dods gave England their interval lead, but Dods immediately nibbled another kick and Scotland tried to step up the pace. Had Townsend, or Smith — unseen at his elbow — scored, the game might have been turned on its head. Instead, the only thing turned over was possession, in the tackle, which is the very area on which Scotland base their game.

"That is our lifeblood," Telfer said, "on which we have built our fluid game this season." England cut the lifeline. Such was the force of their tackling that Scotland attackers spilt ball and Richards and Co gobbled it up. Scotland were left to play 70 or 80 metres from the England line and under intense pressure. "England," Telfer suggested, "played on the flat foot rather than the front foot." It was that flat foot, as worn by England's policeman, that stamped out Scotland's grand-slam light.

SCORERS: Scotland: Penalty goals: Dods (3). England: Penalty goals: Grayson (6).

SCOTLAND: R J S Shepherd (Melrose); C A Joiner (Melrose), S Hastings (Watsonians), I C Jardine (Stirling County), M Dods (Northampton); G P J Townsend (Northampton), B W Redpath (Melrose); D I W Hilton (Bath), K D McKenzie (Stirling County), P H Wright (Boroughmuir), R I Wainwright (Watsonians, capcam), S J Campbell (Dundee HSFP), G W Weir (Newcastle), I R Smith (Gloucester), E W Peters (Bath).

ENGLAND: M J Catt (Bath); J M Sleightholme (Bath), W D C Carling (Harlequins, captain), J C Guscott (Bath), R Underwood (Leicester/RAF); P J Grayson (Northampton), M J S Dawson (Northampton); G C Rowntree (Leicester), M P Regan (Bristol), J Leonard (Harlequins), B B Clarke (Bath), M O Johnson (Leicester), G S Archer (Bristol), L B N Dallaglio (Wasps), D Richards (Leicester). Richards replaced by T A K Rodber (Northampton/Army, 78min)

Referee: W D Bevan (Wales).



Redpath, the Scotland scrum half, aims for touch despite the concerted efforts of Leonard, second right, and Regan to charge down his kick. Photograph: Ian Stewart

Professionals in the business of winning



Rob Andrew says England have every reason to feel euphoric over a job well done

You cannot underestimate what victory over Scotland at Murrayfield will mean to this England team. It is not merely the fact of winning, but what preceded it, in terms of Scotland's achievements and the apparent discontent that has surrounded England's efforts for much of this season.

I do not think that they, as a group, ever lost their sense of belief in what they are trying to do, and, for that, Will Carling must take a lot of credit; but the consequences of defeat would have been significant. One or two of the older players were looking down the barrel, and Jack Rowell would have been under enormous pressure. There would have been calls for change, more people leaping onto the bandwagon of criticism for the management, whereas now, so many young players, individually and as part of a group, have been immersed in one of sport's great cauldrons, and will be the better for it.

I arrived in Edinburgh on Friday evening and sensed a feeling of inevitability that Scotland would achieve the grand slam. I doubt very much if Jim Telfer or his team felt that, but their country and supporters may have done. Nothing motivates opponents more, or creates a greater burden for the team perceived to be favourites.

In the England hotel on Saturday morning, the players were focused and Dean Richards was on edge. He was aware of the circumstances in which he had returned to the team, trying to play down the role awarded to him as England's saviour, but he was the right man for the job.

What more can you say about Richards? He is unique. You could tell from the first minute that he was going to dominate the game, and everything he did allowed the others to get on and play their game. It was like watching Leicester — Richards and Martin Johnson ran the show, they controlled possession.

That is exactly what is needed to beat the Scots at Murrayfield. There will be critics who carp at the way that England played, but the players have every right to be euphoric at the completion of a professional job, playing to their strengths and denying the opposition the chance to play to theirs.

English rugby will have to come to terms with the entertainment factor, but it will only come over a period of time, not merely because, seven months ago, the game was declared professional. It is a particularly English problem, not just at international level, but the domestic game is improving; ball-skills generally are better, forwards are more athletic, but it is a constant evolution.

The way that the game is played must remain at the top of the agenda, but that is no justification for ignoring historical strengths. Just because England have had to throw off the hangover created by a dreadful six minutes against New Zealand during the World Cup semi-final last year, does not mean that we should all try to play basketball on the international field.

Psychologically, England were right. To attain the lead, if only by the odd point, was vital, and Paul Grayson did that, in the same way that Simon Hodgkinson and Jonathan Webb gave us a cushion a few years ago, and although Grayson could not push home England's superiority in the second half, they were able to complete the business.

If Scotland's attempt to increase the pace just after the interval had been rewarded on the scoreboard, their players and the crowd would have been lifted, but they were forced to turn over significant amounts of possession. They were denied continuity and forced to play in their own territory. In many ways, they have been the team of the championship, and now they may end up with nothing — just like England in 1990.

Scots find defeat hard to take

David Miller argues that expectation clouds judgment on a team's failure

Only the reduction of rugby union to a 13-a-side game, abolishing flankers so as to have a six-man pack, can end the kind of frustration and controversy surrounding England's victory at Murrayfield. You want open play? Remove some armour plating.

While Jim Telfer, the Scotland manager, Rob Wainwright, their captain, and Gregor Townsend, their outstanding fly-half, disappointedly but generously acknowledged England's worthy victory by legitimate means, many of their followers sought to hide their remorse behind condemnation of England's defensive tactics. Empty consolation. Frank Bruno may as well complain about Mike Tyson punching too hard.

The wail of hypocrisy from distraught Scottish supporters that engulfed Murrayfield at the finish could be heard at Hadrian's Wall and beyond. If the Scots had led themselves to believe that they were on the brink of another Bannockburn, only to encounter an England team controversially celebrating the 250th anniversary of Culloden next month, they have only themselves to blame for the depth of their disillusionment.

All around, from tartan public to the majority of saltire press to sections of the Scotland bench, you could hear protests that England's rugged, stifling forward play, built around the massive performance of Dean Richards, had ruined the match and was ruining the future of the game. The truth was merely that it had ruined the Scots' presumptive euphoria.

That is the price of placing the emotional health of the nation on the shoulders of a rugby pack; of over-estimating the capabilities of a developing new team on the strength of three victories, two against average opposition.

This was, after all, just a rugby match. Scottish supporters should have buried their fallen expectations, gathered up their injured optimism and stolen quietly away to prepare for another day.

Instead, there was the sound of David Johnston, their backs coach, and the Scottish press taunting Jack Rowell, the England manager, with accusations of not playing a running, adventurous game.

Johnston sourly alleged that Guscott "doesn't seem to do much for his money", while Telfer was cajoled into saying that England's possession "wasn't as sweet as you would have wanted". So what?

The rational editorial in *The Scotsman* on Saturday had stated: "In unguarded moments, we say we want to win with style ... [that] winning is only desirable with flair ... This is poppycock. Victory is what counts."

This is the world, for better or worse, of professionalism: of multimillion pound stadiums, substantial media promotion, almost intolerable expectation and pressure. We cannot, whether we are Scots or English, New Zealanders or Australians, expect mortal players to exhibit under such circumstances the aspirations or ideals of Greek gods and philosophers. They have to rise for breakfast and face tomorrow like the rest of us.

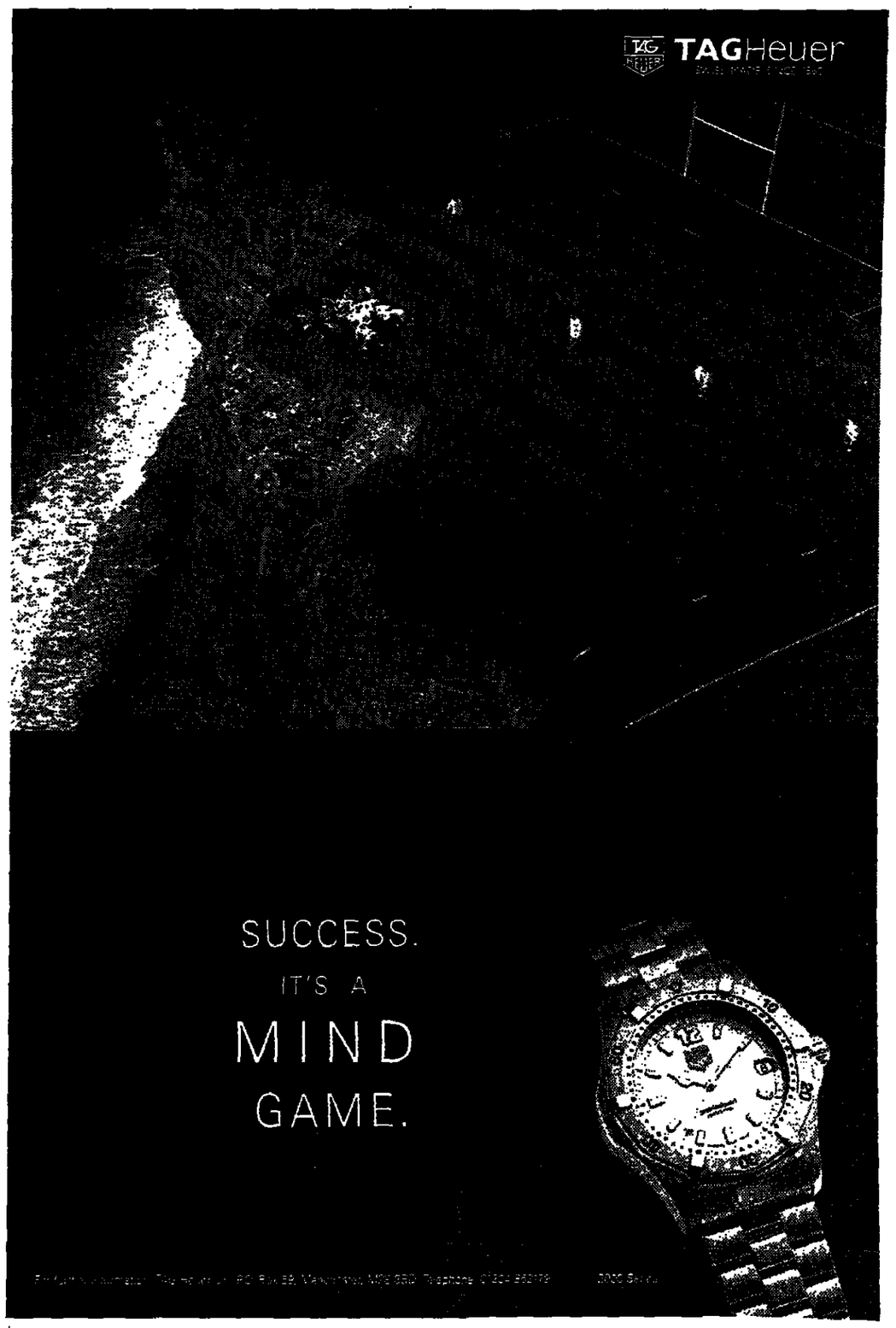
England did what they had to do, what Scotland would have done had they been able. It is the International Rugby Football Board that has the broader, detached, intellectual responsibility for the future of a now professional game, and its appeal to the paying public and future generations of young players. It is the board that must find the structural formation that will assist this.

The 15-man game is not written in the Ten Commandments. The late, wise Bob Paisley, contemplating the similar frustration in football, advocated no change in the laws, simply a reduction to teams of ten players. Such reduction is the logical step in either game, where players are so much bigger, faster and fitter than 20, let alone 50, years ago.

The public demand on men like Rowell to win beautifully is absurd. I suspect that Rowell is close to being broken by the pressure. He may have said "I am at peace with the world" in the face of intimidating questioning; or added that "after being told we would be on the wrong side of a hiding, we turned it around and did something famous". Yet he clearly thought some of the questions were unfair, and his hands visibly twitched nervously, plucking at his skin, as he attempted to remain dignified.

Will Carling, who, over his years as captain, has acquired a laconic indifference to press harassment, said defiantly: "The personal stick beforehand motivated us. Our forwards played exceptionally well. You get caught up [in the realities of the moment] out on the pitch."

It ill becomes any Scot to decry the victory, considering how their team blatantly set out to kill the game when they denied England the grand slam six years ago. The abiding memory of England's dour victory this time will be the heroic contribution of the veteran Richards, and of the gallant yet vain breakaway by Townsend that threatened to bring the only try of the match.



Simple dressing that flies in the face of temptation



Brian Clarke says there is no need to cast around as a new trout season begins

I have, in my time, tied every kind of dry fly known to God and man and a few possibly not known to either, but, when March comes and a new trout season begins, I take the minimalist approach. I know that three simple dressings will meet most of my needs, and it is on these that my effort goes.

This is not to deny the fascinations of the fly-dresser's art or to suggest that other patterns sometimes are not useful. Imitative fly design is one of angling's highest skills and I have spent years trying to improve my own. Mayflies will always be needed on mayfly waters, daddy-long-legs will often come in handy for drawing up fish in lakes on summer days.

A couple of brighter flies — always including something in red — can also be essential on lakes, not least because there is no current on a lake to take the fly to the fish and so visibility must be considered as a means of attracting the fish to the fly.

But, beyond that, all the dry flies I carry can be contained in a couple of plastic tubs that film comes in. One of them contains little brown jobs, the other contains little black jobs and, on rivers, I would feel well-armed with these alone.

For all the apparent handicaps of such an approach, consider, as always, the fish. It is lying some way below the surface, looking up. It recognises most flies by the tiny pinpoints of light where the insect's feet or body touch the surface. The fish knows how big these pinpoint patterns are: they are similar in size to the impressions made by every natural fly it has ever seen. These sizes — the occassional oddity excepted — are much of a muchness and can be imitated on hook sizes 18 to 12.

The fish also knows what colour natural flies are because the range is so limited. An unalarmed trout that is feeding at the surface does not agonise over every fly it takes. If it did, the hatch would be over and the fish would be one day nearer to death by starvation. If the feeding fish see something of familiar size and colour and it has not been alarmed, there is a chance it will rise.

Many flies are black, from the minute and infuriating smuts to the black gnats. A plain black fly imitates these in all essentials in sizes 18 and 16. There is only one large black fly and that is the Hawthorn. The Hawthorn fly — it is a terrestrial insect that gets blown onto the water — appears from the middle of April to the middle of May. Then, the same dressing as above, on size 14 and even size 12, will do the job.

The other common fly which the trout take off the surface are the various olives and sedges. The typical colour of a newly-hatched olive is a drab green. The sedges, typically, are brown.

I have not found trout feeding on hatching olives to be overly fussy about pattern — at least on rivers. The olives often hatch in vast numbers and trout feeding on them seem programmed to respond to light pattern alone. Nor, as a rule, have I found trout feeding on sedges to be overly-concerned about patterns. And so I use a sedge pattern with a green-brown seal's fur body to imitate the sedges and the same fly, in slightly smaller sizes, to imitate the olives. I use the sedge pattern when olives are on the water because the fish seem untroubled by the difference. And the sedge floats longer than an olive dressing would.

There is an important point about the way these first two flies are fished. Mostly, I would dunk my dry flies in flotant and chuck them out so that they float high and dry on the top. There are times, however, when it is necessary to fish them not on the surface film, but in it. The fish indicate these times, by not taking. Then I grease only the top and back of the fly so that it settles well down into the surface before stopping. Takes to dry flies right *on* top can be splashy affairs. Takes to dry flies fished *in* the surface can be very confident — presumably because the fish takes as though eating a dead or dying fly.

There is another, quite distinct dressing in my tub for little brown jobs. It imitates the oliver spinners. Most oliver spinners have sherry-brown bodies and clear wings that lie flat on the water, out to either side. Being clear, these wings allow light to pass through them from above, and so the brownish body of the fly and the pools of light transmitted by the wings are visible to the trout below.

The light pattern the natural spinner makes is very different to the pattern created by my artificial sedge and so I carry a specific dressing to imitate it. The tails are conventional, the body is made from the same green-brown seal's fur mixture as the sedge, tied slimly, and the wings are made from a single, narrow slip of polythene cut from a kitchen bag. This slip is tied in the middle across the hookshank just behind the eye and it completes a dressing that is a dead-ringer for the natural insect. A tiny nick at the base of each wing will stop the fly spinning during the cast and kinking the leader.

This fly lies naturally flush in the surface film and the rise to it, as to the natural spinner, is a subliminal sip. It completes, when accurately cast, a deadly trio that will see many a season through.

☐ *Brian Clarke's fishing column appears on the first Monday of each month.*

Surprise success for North Yorkshire at cross country championships

New peak for Giggleswick fell runners

BY DAVID POWELL
ATHLETICS CORRESPONDENT

THE number of young people running cross country is diminishing, according to Bob Ashwood, the Great Britain team coach. If only there were more breeding grounds like Giggleswick School.

Giggleswick is a small mixed boarding school on the edge of the Yorkshire Dales national park, where hockey and rugby are the main sports, but where cross country is pushing itself forward. "It is the school's most successful sport in terms of county representation," Alastair Scholey, the master in charge of cross country, said.

If they are giggling at Giggleswick today, why not?



Brindle, a leading mountain biker, makes good strides in the English Schools cross country championships. Photograph: André Camara

SPORT IN SCHOOLS

Schools results 33

Charlotte Sanderson, one of its pupils, played a vital part in a momentous North Yorkshire victory at the TSB English Schools championships in Weymouth on Saturday. Nobody could remember North Yorkshire winning a team title before.

Sanderson was twelfth among 296 runners in the senior girls' race. Her prominence was as much a surprise as the second place secured by Victoria Wilkinson. With Karen Duke sixth, North Yorkshire won by 132 points.

"We did not expect to finish in the top three," Gwen Taylor Hall, the North Yorkshire team manager, said. Now, Sanderson can only inspire others at Giggleswick, which, from a squad of only 26 runners, provided more of the North Yorkshire squad than any other school.

A first for Giggleswick and a first for the fire brigade. Whoever heard of firefighters being called to a cross country course? It happened when the water supply for the toilets and showers ran low and the hoses were needed. The course could have done with some water, too.

Weymouth offered a flat course, not a Giggleswick course. "Most of the training is done on the surrounding fells, including runs over the Three Peaks," Scholey said. "They all choose to do it. Nobody is bullied into it." Sanderson is inspired by the scenery. "It is another world up in the hills, brilliant," she said.

The group goes out three times a week. "Typically, most of these runs finish with tea and carrot cake at a local café," Scholey said. "The nearest tartan track is more than 30 miles away and the school's grass track spends two terms as a rugby or soccer pitch."

Sanderson said: "One of the reasons we do well is because we have fun." Matthew Brindle cannot resist Giggleswick's cross country charms, though mountain biking is his main sport. He is among the leading young mountain bikers in the north of England, but his cross country is catching up.

After placing 205th in the senior boys' race last year, Brindle was aiming for a finish in the top 100 this time. He came 68th on a course that was "a bit flat for me". His sights are fixed on making the British junior fell running team this year.

The richness of the English Schools mixture it its blend of champions and triers. Kairn Stone, from Devon, and Amy Waterlow, from Cheshire, won the senior titles and were as capable of articulating their comments as they were in seeing off the opposition.

Waterlow had the option to compete in the British trials for the world championships yesterday, but, torn between the two, opted for Weymouth. "People remember who won the English Schools," Waterlow said. "It stays with you for a long time."

Stone, whose 6ft 1in frame looks impressive in flight, seized his opportunity when, circled by reporters, he complained that his local council had rejected proposals for a new track in Torquay. He does not mind his "kind of weird name" — his siblings are Kolvin and Kadie — but he does object to his nearest track being in Exeter.

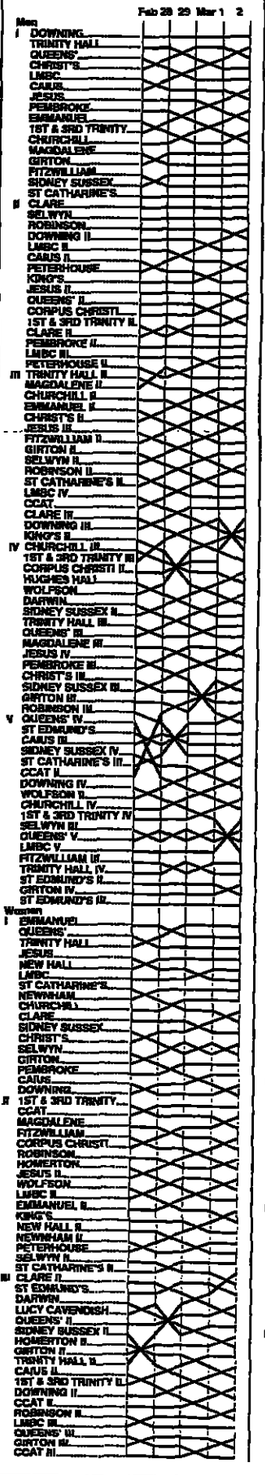
Among the triers was Sarah Dugdale, of North Yorkshire, eleventh in the intermediate girls' race. On Friday, she was at the dentist having an abscess removed, with nothing to relieve the pain in case she was called for a drugs test. For South Yorkshire, Idris Ahmed was seventh in the intermediate boys' event after losing a shoe early on.

Jackie Hogan, of North Yorkshire, looked glum after finishing fifth among the intermediate girls, but how she smiled when told that Kelly Holmes had filled that position the last time the championships were in Weymouth.

If there was a disappointment, it was the failure of Martina Navratilova to line up with the intermediate girls, as per the programme, for Dorset. "She did not want to run," Caroline Lewis, the Dorset team manager, said — and she used to be so good on grass.

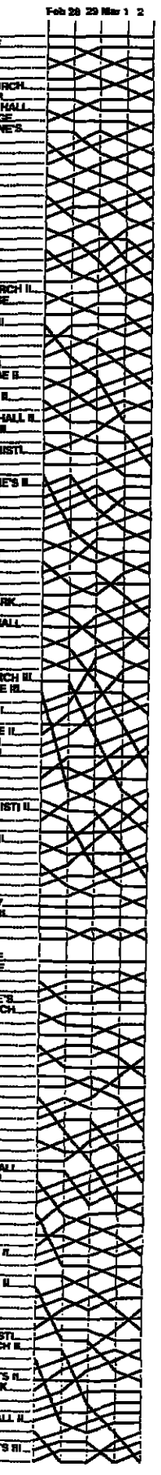
Downing remain in charge

DOWNING rowed over to complete a hat-trick at the head of the men's divisions in the Cambridge University Lent rowing races. Christ's were within four feet of Downing's stern when caught by Caius at the Railings. 1st and 3rd Trinity won their oars when they toppled Lady Margaret at Morley's Holt with their fourth bump of the week. Trinity Hall held off Emmanuel to claim their first women's headship.



Oriel and Osler keep headships

ORIEL and Osler House retained the headships of the men's and women's first divisions of the Oxford University Torpids, which ended on Saturday. Brasenose, on Wednesday and Thursday, and Pembroke, on the last two days, never got close enough to mount a serious challenge to Oriel, and Osler finished well clear of New College. St Catherine's moved up to second place after making three bumps.



SNOW REPORTS

	Depth (cm) L	U	Conditions Piste	Off/p	Runs to resort	Weather (5pm)	°C	Last snow
ANDORRA								
Soldeu	110	240	powder	powder	good	snow	-10	3/3
(Very good skiing with new snow on hard base)								
AUSTRIA								
Kitzbühel	30	125	powder	powder	good	snow	-3	3/3
(Blizzard conditions at altitude, outlook excellent)								
Schladming	65	100	good	powder	good	sun	-4	3/3
(Excellent skiing on fresh snow; pistes uncrowded)								
Soll	75	85	good	powder	open	snow	-2	3/3
(Good skiing in all areas on fresh snow)								
FRANCE								
Avoriaz	170	210	good	varied	good	sun	-6	23/2
(Excellent skiing on firm, compacted snow, some icy patches)								
Tignes	130	210	good	varied	hard	cloud	-14	2/3
(Good skiing but visibility poor)								
ITALY								
Cervinia	140	360	good	crust	good	wind	-10	26/2
(Good skiing on all runs, very windy at altitude)								
SWITZERLAND								
Murren	45	150	hard	crusty	fair	sun	-5	1/3
(Lowest pistes becoming worn, hard-packed snow)								
Zermatt	40	310	good	varied	worn	fine	4	2/3
(Hard-packed snow on most pistes, glacier very good)								

Source: Ski Club of Great Britain. L - lower slopes; U - upper.

Freak blow rules out Gourlay

BY DAVID RHYS JONES

DAVID GOURLAY Jr, the recently crowned world indoor bowls champion, has had to withdraw from the British Isles indoor championships in Auchinleck today after being injured in yesterday's Scottish League Cup final at Glasgow's West of Scotland Indoor Bowls club.

In a thrilling final, Gourlay's Prestwick team tied with Turriff, 89-89, at close of play, but collected 11 shots to three on the extra end to win, 100-92.

Early in the match a brilliant delivery from the 29-year-old Gourlay was greeted by his team-mates with such abandoned delight that his right arm was badly twisted in the football-style skirmish.

"I managed to spring the jacks to make four shots," Gourlay said, "then I was mobbed by my rink, and I think it must have been Gavin Campbell, my No 3, who wrenched my arm in his excitement."

His arm in a sling, Gourlay was on painkillers last night and had arranged for Robert McCulloch, the former Scotland captain, to take his place in the Prestwick quartet for this morning's semi-finals of the British Isles fours championship.

Goss prepares to make a small advance

Edward Gorman meets a former Marine ready for war with France

Like many tough individuals, Pete Goss, a former Royal Marine, does not brag about his ability to endure hardship or his determination to succeed. It is only the odd phrase in his enthusiastic explanation of his mission that gives an inkling of his attitude and capabilities.

The Vendee Globe non-stop round-the-world race is the most gruelling of single-handed yachting challenges. Goss, once a member of the elite Commacchio company in the Marines, on permanent alert for oil-rig hijacks, speaks of it as "not a series of battles, but a war".

On a shoestring budget, this former British Steel Challenge skipper, who once slept on deck all the way across the Atlantic during a single-handed race, has thrown himself into an audacious attempt to try to wrest the Vendee Globe from the French. They have won it both times it has been staged and have long-since taken over from the British as the leading exponents of solo offshore sailing.

The Goss approach is daring and unconventional. While most of the 15 or so competitors who will muster at the start line at Les Sables d'Olonne, north of La Rochelle, in November will do so in the biggest boats allowed under the rules — 60ft — Goss has opted for a 50ft craft, the shortest length permitted.

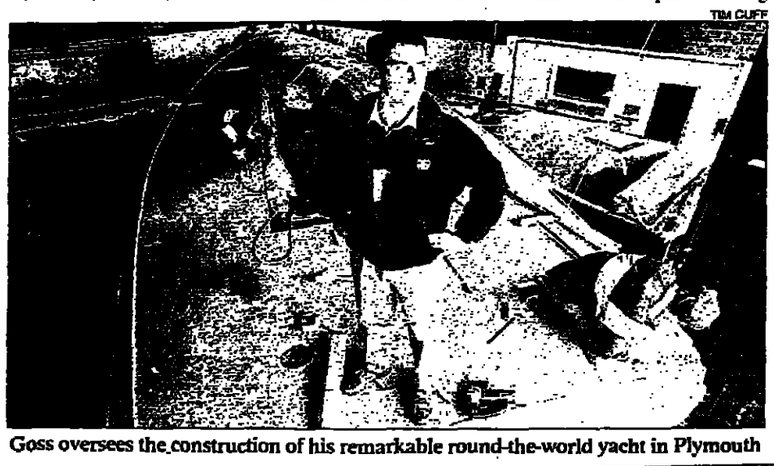
The choice is based partly on cost. Goss is operating on around £350,000, compared to French budgets of up to £2 million. More important is the very large discrepancy in weight over the two sizes. While a 60ft boat might weigh in at around 9 tons, Goss's 50ft monohull, *Aqua Quorum*, will be just 4.5 to 5 tons, a reflection of its much smaller volume. Goss hopes his yacht will be faster in many conditions and also easier to sail at its optimum performance over long periods because it requires a smaller sail area than the larger boats.

Goss and the designer, Adrian Thompson, have dispensed with the water ballast that will feature on most Vendee Globe yachts and have opted for a hydraulically-controlled swing keel complemented by dagger boards, which are usually associated with multihulls.

Extraordinary care has been taken to save weight. The hull is being constructed from a light but tough airex foam core with laminates of kevlar and carbon. There will be no roller furling system on the two headsails and no permanent bowsprit. Upwind, a spinnaker pole will take its place. Even the weight of Goss's personal possessions and food for the four-and-a-half month journey have been taken into account in the design.

Although the budget is small the project has a winning feel about it. Apart from the main sponsor, Aqua Quorum, Goss's backers include BT, Caltel Communications and 3M, but he still needs another £150,000, despite having sold his house. *Aqua Quorum*, which will be launched in April, is being built in Plymouth by a team led by Gary Venning, who has a number of top racing hulls behind him, including the former Whitbread maxi *Rothmans* and the 60ft multihull *Sebago*. The keel has been designed by Martin Smyth, who designed the nose section of Concorde, while Thompson has a long pedigree in innovative offshore racing and multihull design.

Goss's enthusiasm for what is the realisation of nearly ten years of planningcomes across loud and clear. "We're up against the world's best from our little shed in Cornwall," he said. "The French don't own single-handed sailing. We're going to take them on and win."



TIM CUFF

Goss oversees the construction of his remarkable round-the-world yacht in Plymouth

He acknowledged that some will view his challenge with scepticism because of the unusual design and limited funding. "What we're trying to do is completely off the wall to a lot of people. I'm sure some of them in the sailing community will just laugh at us but we are going to give it a shot. We have enough confidence to bite the bullet and go for it," he said.

It is a view shared by the whole team working with him. "It's a bit of a gamble I suppose, doing something like this, but you've got to do it," Venning said.

"If you just stick to the boring old ways, you're not going to develop at all."

هكذا من الأصل

Nicholson places Festival confidence in Johnson

BY RICHARD EVANS, RACING JOURNALIST OF THE YEAR

THE remarkable success of *Richard Johnson* as the most promising young jockey of the year was put into splendid context yesterday by David Nicholson — with words backed up by action.

"He's only 18," the champion jumps trainer said "but I think Peter Scudamore, Richard Dunwoody and Adrian Maguire would have been delighted to have been riding as well at that age."

Nicholson *should* know. During the 1980s and 1990s the three illustrious riders have served as stable jockey to "the Duke" and gone on to claim most of National Hunt's prized races.

With Maguire now ruled out of next week's Cheltenham Festival with a fractured collar-bone, Nicholson had *no* hesitation in putting his young conditional jockey on several of the stable stars at Jackdaws *Castle, despite his* relative lack of experience. "Richard could have nine or ten rides for me at Cheltenham," he disclosed.

Such confidence in the teenager, who rode his first winner little more than a year ago, is shared by Noel Chance, trainer of Mr Mulligan, the hot favourite for the Sun Alliance Chase. Despite receiving approaches from agents representing the *top jockeys in the* land, the Lambourn trainer has not entertained replacing Johnson on his impressive eight-year-old chestnut.

Since moving from Ireland to Berkshire, Chance has used *Johnson* when available and from the moment he partnered his first runner, Monty Royale, to a 10-1 *success at* Market Rasen last June the partnership has gone from strength to strength.

Chance paid his tribute: "He's cool and always has his horse in the right place during a race, *which is a talent in* itself. He has never once got beaten on a horse that he should have won on and he's won a couple he had no right to win. When I walk into the *ring with Richard Johnson I* can talk about the weather. You don't have to draw a map for him."

Johnson is certainly bred for the job in hand. His father, Keith, who farms in Herefordshire, won the Midlands Grand National in 1982 on Bridge Ash, trained by his *grandfather*, Ivor, against whom Nicholson used to ride.

"He's from a smashing farming family and came to me as a schoolboy aged 16," Nicholson recalled. "He's always had talent and he works very *hard at it and listens to* what you tell him.

"If you tell him to jump the second last upside he does it, as he showed twice last week on Miss Optimist at Wetherby and Baronet at Nottingham. Or if you tell him to come to the last a length down, he'll do *it as he did with Hatta Breeze* at Newbury on Friday."

Nicholson is convinced the decision to delay Johnson turning professional until November so he could ride in the amateur races on the Flat during the summer has been responsible for the dramatic strides made this term.

"Everybody was telling him to turn professional but I said 'no.' He rode in the amateur races during the summer, won the *Bollinger* trophy, and he improved out all recognition. At the time he didn't like the *decision, but he now* freely admits it was the best thing he ever did," Nicholson said.

The honing of a potential *future champion* could have one perverse consequence for Nicholson. Before Maguire was injured, Nicholson readily agreed to Johnson riding Mr Mulligan for Chance at Cheltenham rather than retaining him to ride one of his Sun Alliance Chase candidates.

Should Mr Mulligan justify favouritism and defeat the likes of Hill Of Tullow, Call It A Day or King Lucifer, the irony will not be lost on Nicholson or his young jockey.

Sound Man impresses

SOUND MAN looked to have booked his Cheltenham ticket after satisfactorily coming through a post-racing workout at Leopardstown yesterday (Our Irish Racing Correspondent writes).

The centre of an injury scare last week, Sound Man impressed in a gallop with his stable companion, Ventana Canyon, and is likely to take on the new favourite, Viking Flagship, in the Queen Mother Two-Mile Champion Chase.

Paul Carberry, who completed a double on Persian Halo and Northern Hide at yesterday's fixture, is *considering an appeal against the* whip suspension incurred aboard Zamhareer at Doncaster on Saturday, which would rule him out of the first two days of Cheltenham.

HUGH ROUTLEDGE



Johnson retains the ride on Mr Mulligan, unbeaten in five outings this term, in the Sun Alliance Chase

Hopes increase for Parker

POINT-TO-POINT BY CARL EVANS

IT IS early days to be talking *about national riders' champi*onships, unless you live north of Scotch Corner. The sport's *northern area has not seen a* national champion for 23 years since Mabel Forrest won the women's title in 1973, so there is understandable excitement about the prospect of Andrew Parker winning the men's event this year.

Riding at the **Tynedale** meeting at Corbridge in Northumberland on Saturday, he began with a winner on Howayman in the con*fined, but then suffered two* falls and a submission from the odds-on Drakewrath and Roly Prior, before Jimmy River showed that age is telling *when pulled up in the men's* open.

How Parker would have loved to swap places on the day with Thomas Scott, who rode the first treble of his long career. Scott, pony-tailed, earstudded and built of the mate*rial used in Hadrian's Wall*, won the open on Bow Handy Man, added to that score on Jayanddoubleu and Overstep and walked away from a last*race fall on Whatoupa.*

Parker was philosophical about his misfortune and took heart that his nearest rival, Paul Hacking, could manage *just one victory, on Celtic* Spark, at Parham.

Hacking moved to six winners, five behind Parker, while Alastair Crow maintained a steady course with a double at the **Sir WW Wynn's** fixture on *Korbell and Scally Muire.*

Alison Dare continued her good start to the season with a treble at that meeting, but Polly Curling was concussed after Strong Tarquin fell at the **Beaufort**.

RESULTS FROM EIGHT MEETINGS

BEAUFORT (Dudmarton): Hunt: 1, Desert Waltz (D Akers-Hankey, 2-5 fav). Inter I: 1, Oaklands Word (J P Rusen, 20-1) Inter II:1, French Pleasure (P Howse, 6-1). Open: 1, Lewesdon Hill (T Mitchell, 8-11 fav). Ladies, 1, Flaked Oats (Miss P Gundry, 2-5 fav) 13 ran Mdn I: 1, Count Babos (F Crew, 4-1) Mdn II: 1, Bewdley Boy (Miss P Gundry, 9-1) Rest: 1,Calling Wild (T Mitchell, 2-1 jt-fav)

CHIDDINGFOLD, LECONFIELD & COWDRAY (Parham): Hunt: 1, Pin's Pride (T Hills, 8-1) Confined 1, Little Martina (A Welsh, 11-4). Rest 1, Murberry (T Hills, 3-1) Ladies 1, Clover Coin (Miss J Grant, 9-2). Open 1, Celtic Spark (P Hacking, 5-4 fav) 1, Local Manor (H Dunlop, 5-2 fav).

EAST DEVON (Clyst St Mary): Hunt 1, Nearly Splendid (T Greed, 1-4 fav) Open: 1, Chilpour (N Harris, 2-9 fav). Confined: 1, Quaker Memory (J Tizzard, Evens fav) Ladies 1, Phar Too Touchy (Miss R Francis, 4-7 fav) Rest I 1, Just Ben (Miss J Cummings, 4-1 jt-fav) Rest II 1, The Pedlar (T Greed, 12-1) Mdn (Div I part I): 1, Belmount Beauty (N Mitchell, 16-1) Mdn (Div I part II): 1, Stallondge Gold (B Dixon, 8-4). Mdn II: 1, Venn Boy (J Tizzard, 6-1).

SIR W W WYNN'S (Eaton Hall): Hunt: 1, Ambrose (W Ritson, 4-5 fav). Open Mdn I: 1, Upton Orbit (Miss S Sadler, 9-4). Open Mdn (Div II): 1, Kloggultio (G Hanmer, 8-1). Open Mdn III: 1, Mr Bobbit (R Burton, 5-1). Confined: 1, Korbell (A Crow, 1-4 fav). Open, 1, Scally Muire (A Crow, 2-5 fav) Ladies: 1, Stephens Pet (Miss A Dare, 4-6 fav), Rest: 1, Rip Van Winkle (Miss A Dare, 4-6 fav). Inter: 1, Landsker Alfred (Miss A Dare, 3-1 jt-fav)

SOUTH CORNWALL (Great Trethew): Confined: 1, The Krabbler (Miss S Young, 7-1) Ladies: 1, Oriental Plume (Mrs M Hand, 2-5 fav). Open: 1, Celtic Sport (R White, 9-4). Inter 1, Kalcore (I Dowrick, 4-5 fav). Rest: 1, Monidon (R White, 4-1) Open Mdn (Div I): 1, Erme Rose (R Nuttall, 4-5 fav). Open Mdn II: 1, Rosa's Revenge (D Jones, 14-1). Open Mdn III: 1, Baldhu Chance (J Young, 4-1).

SOUTH DURHAM (Great Stainton): Hunt: 1, Trip Your Trigger (Mrs S Grant, 4-1). Confined: 1, Castle Tyrant (P Atkinson, 5-1). Open: 1, Maharaj (D Coates, 3-1); Ladies: 1, Final Hope (Miss F Needham, *Evens fav). Inter 1, Fern Leader* (C Wilson, 6-1). Open Mdn I. 1, Sergent Kay (W Burnell, 10-1). Open Mdn II: 1, Primitive Penny (R Edwards, 4-1).

SUFFOLK (Arnpton): Hunt: 1, Old Dundalk (N King, 2-1). Confined: 1, Dunboy Castle (Miss G Chown, 8-1) Ladies, 1, St Gregory (Mrs L Gibbon, 7-4). Open. 1, Copper Thistle (P Tatano, 1-2 fav). Rest: 1, Saffron Rama (P Tatano, 7-4 fav). Open Mdn I 1, No Quitting (N Bloom, 5-1). Open Mdn II. 1, Opus Winwood (A Martin, 14-1)

TYNEDALE (Corbridge) Hunt: 1, General Delight (D Wood, 11-2). Confined: 1, Howayman (A Parker, 4-7 fav). Ladies: 1, Ready Steady (Mrs K Hargreave, 8-1). 10 ran. Rest: 1, Master Kit (J Billings, 33-1). Open: 1, Bow Handy Man (T Scott, 10-1). *Mdn I 1, Jayandoubleu (T Scott, 4-1).* Mdn II: 1, Overstep (T Scott, 5-2). Mdn III: 1, Fiscal Policy (H Trotter, 7-4 fav)

New instruction looks wide open to trainers' excuses

A more telling argument for a trainer's *presence on the Brit*ish Horseracing Board (BHB) than the publication of the Jockey Club instruction HI4, it would be hard to imagine.

This misbegotten piece of *legislation signals the final transfer of power in the administration from practical racing men to the technocrats* in the office.

In a nutshell, HI4 places the burden of reporting "anything that may have adversely affected the performance in a race of any horse they train" squarely upon the trainer. There follows a list of 12 possible examples which *should be reported, followed* by a catch-all clause — "this list is not exhaustive" and any other circumstance which has not been included "*must* be the subject of a report".

Well, exhaustive the list is not. It would have been compiled by any ten-year-old graduate of the Pony Club 'C' Test. Even Jack Hylton, a famed impresario and bandleader, but not noted for his in-depth knowledge of horse racing, could think up 52 "trainers' excuses" to decorate his Christmas card to his *trainers, one for each week in* the year.

At least two items on the list, "equipment failure" and "bit slipped through the mouth", far from adversely affecting the running of a horse, could well convert a blatant non-trier into a *comfortable winner.*

It is typical of the sort of "bossy boots" adjutant's regulation that in former times ensured that its author was shot in the back by his own men the first time he went over the top. Yet the whole idiotic scheme depends for its success on the co-operation of *the troops, i.e. trainers.*

If the instruction is finally implemented, I envisage apparent compliance and actual defiance on a scale to rival the "goon baiting" activities which were the only enjoyable pastimes afforded the inmates of Colditz and other similarly humourless establishments.

Apparently, the regulation is a window-dressing initiative to give the public more confidence in the probity of racing. Like most of the recent activities of the disciplinary committee, it will do more to bring racing into disrepute than the entire *training and riding profes*sions put together.

Far from being a prop to make up for the apparent incompetence of the officials at present employed to do the job, this regulation will constitute a charter for non-triers similar to that already malfunctioning in Ireland.

Can anyone seriously believe that a trainer, whose horse has bled or finished lame and escaped the notice of the stipes, the vets and, more importantly, the bloodstock agents, would voluntarily jeopardise the sale of the horse by making its unsoundness public?

It surely won't be long before we have an update to the Sid Forrell story. This oldtime trainer, having been chided by his owner for sending long-winded telegrams to explain the failure of his horses, reacted after yet another failure, by sending off the following cryptic message: SF SF SF SF.

When his owner demanded a translation, he replied: "Started, farted, slipped and fell. See you Friday, Sid Forrell".

Personally, I have enough trouble trying to account to myself and my owner for a disappointing run without having to manufacture a spurious malady to satisfy some hobgoblin in Portman Square.

TOM JONES



Racing commentary

WINDSOR

THUNDERER

2.20 Strike-A-Pose
2.50 Joumeys Friend
3.25 Celtic Town
3.55 DEYMIAR (nap)
4.25 What A Hand
5.00 Flippance
5.30 Nessun Doro

Carl Evans: 4.25 Bootscraper.

GUIDE TO OUR IN-LINE RACECARD

101 113143 GOOD TIMES 13 (BF,F,G,S) (Mrs D Robinson) B Hall 12-0 . . . B West (7) 88

Racecard number Six-figure form (F — fell, P — pulled up, U — unseated rider B — brought down, S — slipped up R — refused, D — disqualified). Horse's name. Days since last outing. F d flat (B — blinkers, V — visor, H — hood E — Eyeshield, C — course winner D — distance winner, CD — course and distance winner. BF — beaten favourite in latest race). Going on which horse has won (F — firm, good to firm, hard, G — good S — soft, good to soft, heavy) Owner in brackets Trainer Age and weight. Rider plus any allowance. The Times Private Handicapper's rating.

GOING: SOFT — TOTE JACKPOT MEETING — SIS

2.20 FINAL SELLING HANDICAP HURDLE (£2,115: 2m 6f 110yd) (21 runners)

101	11-5606	IL BAMBINO 40 (S) (H Manners) H Manners 9-11-10	Mr A Wintle (7)	98
102	303-522	STRIKE-A-POSE 7 (S) (Four Star Racing Club) B Llewellyn 6-11-3	Mr J L Llewellyn	94
103	P06SF	ROSIE-B B (V) (Dormant Precision Engineering Ltd) R Stronge 6-11-1	R Stronge	89
104	550-8F0	TAKE A FLYER 46 (B,F,G) (R Osborne) R Hodges 6-10-11	J Harris (7)	97
105	4030-25	SELDOM IN 122 (Eastenville Racing Club) R Bromiston 10-10-10	D Gallagher	89
106	3F2F60	REIGNING ROYAL 46 (L Phillips) D Burchell 5-10-10	D J Burchell	92
107	00-00	RIO DANCER 17 (The Sampson Partnership) H Oliver 7-10-9	Philip Hughes (7)	85
108	05300/P-	JOHNSTONS BUCK 383 (Mrs B Curley) B Curley 7-10-8	E Murphy	–
109	0-PP0P0	BOOGIE BOPPER 75 (S) (V.D) (Martin Pipe Racing Club) M Pipe 7-10-7	J Evans	–
110	3-50622	MISTER BLAKE 83 (Mrs R Plummer) Mrs A Hamilton-Fairley 6-10-7	D Leahy	97
111	01-P462	DAMCADA 40 (D,BF,S) (Ed Racing) A Carroll 8-10-6	J F Titley	85
112	166000	KNYAZ 19 (B,F,S) (T Clay) Mrs L Richards 6-10-6	D Morris	98
113	0000	BERTS CHOICE 18 (B) (W Sanderson) K Bridgwater 5-10-5	B Powell	81
114	606P	FULL QUIVER 40 (R Parker) Mrs B Waring 11-10-4	E Byrne	98
115	00/025-4	CORNS LITTLE FELLA 59 (M Clarke) D Geraghty 8-10-3	J Supple (3)	90
116	303043	ITS GRAND 40 (Avon & West Racing Club Ltd) J Bradley 7-10-2	R Farrant	94
117	FP/PR-1	NORTH BANNISTER 40 (D,F,S,S) (Lazy Dg's Racing) T McGovern 9-10-2	J R Kavanagh	96
118	30-0205	SIR CRUSTY 40 (F,G,S) (Miss B Smith) C Jones 14-10-0	S Curran (3)	97
119	F/UU0P0	MISS PIMPERNEL 16 (B,F) (D Hazzard) A Barrow 6-10-0	D Salter (5)	–
120	000/P/P	BENGAZEE 55 (Mrs M Wilson) A J Wilson 8-10-0	Mr M McSmith (7)	–
121	/4/36-00	LADY POLY 40 (G) (Harlequin Racing) J Poulton 8-10-0	Leesa Long	–

Long handicap: Miss Pimpernel 9-11, Bengazee 9-10, Lady Poly 9-5

BETTING: 5-1 North Bannister, 6-1 Damcada, 7-1 Strike-A-Pose, Johnstons Buck, 9-1 Its Grand 9-1 Mister Blake, 10-1 Seldom In, 12-1 others.

1995: VILLA PARK 13-10-13 Peter Hobbs (11-1) G Wareham 17 ran

FORM FOCUS

STRIKE-A-POSE 8l 2nd of 12 to Esprit De Femme in handicap hurdle at Plumpton (2m 4f, soft). ROSIE-B best recent effort 55½1 6th of 17 to Hollie Darling in novice handicap hurdle at Wincanton (2m 5f, good to soft). SELDOM IN 5l 2nd of 8 to Ruby Vision in novice hurdle at Stratford (2m 6f 110yd, good to firm) penultimate start. MISTER BLAKE 20l 2nd of 13 to Corran Hill in selling handicap hurdle at Hereford (2m 1f, good) on penultimate start, with ITS GRAND (5lb worse off) 7l 3rd and REIGNING ROYAL 13½l 6th FULL QUIVER 27¾l 6th of 12 to Barney's Gift in claiming hurdle at Huntingdon (2m 110yd, good to soft) on penultimate start. NORTH BANNISTER beat DAMCADA (11lb better off) neck in 17-runner selling handicap hurdle at Folkestone (2m 6f 110yd, good to soft) with ITS GRAND (9lb better off) 12l 3rd, SIR CRUSTY (11lb better off) 35l 5th, LADY POLY (3lb better off) 14l 8th, KNYAZ (15lb better off) 2l 10th and FULL QUIVER (14lb better off) pulled up before last.

Selection: NORTH BANNISTER

2.50 STORACALL NOVICES CHASE (£2,968: 2m) (6 runners)

201	843134	FIERCE 19 (D,F,G,S) (P Piper) J Jackson 8-11-8	J F Titley	88
202	04F	CHURCHTOWN PORT 40 (J Peckett) P Butler 8-11-1	T J Murphy (3)	–
203	P00P/	FULL OF TRICKS 205 (B) (S White) J Bridger 8-11-1	W McFarland	–
204	R6/F	JOURNEYS FRIEND 17 (P Winfield) N Henderson 8-11-1	J R Kavanagh	–
205	/F132/P-	MY WIZARD 486 (G) (Mrs A Brodie) J Gifford 9-11-1	P Hide	–
206	00115-0	WINSPIT 53 (F) (Mrs J Purdie) R Alner 6-11-1	Mr J Culloty (5)	–

BETTING: 2-1 Fierce, 5-2 Churchtown Port, 4-1 My Wizard, Journeys Friend, 10-1 Winspit, 14-1 Full Of Tricks.

1995: RED BEAR 7-11-2 A Tory (33-1) J O'Donoghue 6 ran

FORM FOCUS

FIERCE 7l 4th of 7 to Lord Dorcet in novice chase at Ascot (2m, good to soft) CHURCHTOWN PORT 6l 4th of 13 to Queenland Bella in novice hurdle at Plumpton (2m 4f, good to soft) penultimate start. JOURNEYS FRIEND about 21l 6th of 15 to Butler's Twitch in novice hurdle at Ascot (2m 4f, good) on penultimate start. MY WIZARD 1½l 3rd of 5 to Scobie Boy in novice hurdle at Ascot (2m 110yd, heavy) penultimate start. WINSPIT 37l 10th of 18 to Lying Eyes in conditional jockeys' handicap hurdle as a Wincanton (2m, good to soft).

Selection: FIERCE

3.25 LADBROKES HANDICAP CHASE (£3,855: 3m 4f 110yd) (7 runners)

301	F45P/PP	POLAR REGION 16 (B,D,F,G,S) (C Mercer) N Henderson 10-11-7	M A Fitzgerald	–
302	U23-131	CELTIC TOWN 17 (F,G,S) (Lady Helen Smith) G Sherwood 8-11-7	J A McCarthy	92
303	1313-00	THE MALAKARMA 16 (F,G,S) (C Drey) Mrs I McKie 10-11-3	W McFarland	93
304	26421	PRICE'S HILL 14 (S) (G Swire) K Bailey 9-10-12	T J Murphy (3)	92
305	2F25P-4	SHAMARPHIL 16 (F,S) (Miss S Barraclough) R Alner 10-10-10	Miss S Barraclough	93
306	222205	*L'UOMO PIU 15 (F,G,S) (C Spencer) A Barrow 12-10-9*	*S Burrough*	90
307	2-13300	KEANO 16 (S) (Mckavon Partnership) P Hobbs 7-10-5	B Powell	89

BETTING: 9-4 Celtic Town, 3-1 Price's Hill, 9-2 Keano, 7-1 Shamarphil, 8-1 L'Uomo Piu, 12-1 others

1995: LUCKY LANE 11-10-7 C Maude (13-8 fav) P Hobbs 4 ran

FORM FOCUS

CELTIC TOWN best Donyson Collonges 14l in 7-runner novice chase at Uttoxeter (3m 2f, good). PRICE'S HILL beat Dusty Rover 15l in 15-runner novice handicap chase at Fontwell (3m 2f 110yd, soft). SHAMARPHIL 33l 4th of 19 to Class Di Ninetyfive in handicap chase at Cheltenham (3m 2f, soft) with KEANO (5lb better off) 34l 8th, THE MALAKARMA (5lb better off) 18l 10th and POLAR REGION pulled up. L'UOMO PIU best recent effort 13l 2nd of 8 to Spanish Fair in amateurs' handicap chase at Huntingdon (3m, good to firm).

Selection: PRICE'S HILL

3.55 BONUSPRINT NOVICES HURDLE (Div I: £2,040: 2m 4f) (11 runners)

401	0	ASHMEAD RAMBLER 17 (The Gallium Set) P Hobbs 6-11-2	C Maude	–
402	0200P/	KUTAN 675 (Mrs B Waring) Mrs B Waring 6-11-2	E Byrne	–
403	2021-32	LOTTERY TICKET 17 (S) (A Parker) J Edwards 7-11-2	J F Titley	75
404		MASTER GOODENOUGH (The Moonrakers Partnership) A Foster 5-11-2	R Farrant	–
405	P	REFERENTIAL 44 (Mrs R Plummer) Mrs A Hamilton-Fairley 5-11-2	D Leahy	–
406	0305/0-	SNAPPY'S BOY JOSH 322 (R Wright) D Thom 7-11-2	R Moore	–
407	242-2P	WELL ARRANGED 44 (Mrs A Hamilton) R Akehurst 5-11-2	S Ryan (7)	90
408	23/40-50	AMARYJO 7 (G) (T Keane) Miss C Carse 7-10-11	B Fenton (3)	51
409		ANALOGUE 28F (S Holt) P Mitchell 4-10-7	D Gallagher	–
410	032	DEYMIAR 16 (T Whitley) D Gandolfo 4-10-7	R Dunwoody	99
411		DAZZLE ME 263F (Duckhaven Stud) A Barrow 4-10-2	S Burrough	–

BETTING: 7-4 Deymiar, 5-2 Well Arranged, 3-1 Lottery Ticket, 12-1 Snappy's Boy Josh, 14-1 Ashmead Rambler, 16-1 Analogue, 25-1 others.

1995: CADOUGOLD 4-10-7 R Dunwoody (6-5 fav) M Pipe 9 ran

FORM FOCUS

ASHMEAD RAMBLER 28l 8th to Hurricane Lamp in Sandown NH flat race (2m, soft) LOTTERY TICKET 11l 2nd to Hooded Hawk in Fakenham novice hurdle (2m 4f, good). WELL ARRANGED 8l 2nd to Strong Promise in Ascot novice hurdle at (2m, good) penultimate start DEYMIAR 7l 2nd to Dazzle in novice hurdle here (3m, good to soft)

Selection: DEYMIAR (nap)

4.25 THAMES VALLEY HUNTERS CHASE (Amateurs: £1,123: 3m) (10 runners)

501	P3/2F1-2	BROWN WINDSOR 16P (B,D,F,G,S) (C Ayell) Miss C Saunders 14-12-7	B Pollock (5)	99
502	3P/011/	DIRECT 791 (D,S) (J Edwards) J Edwards 13-12-7	T Edwards (7)	–
503	UU6121-	MY MELLOW MAN 287 (B,D,F,G,S) (W Gooden) W Gooden 13-12-7	Miss S Vickery (7)	80
504	61P0/21-	ULLSWATER 500 (F,G,S) (P Broadhurst) Miss G Russell 10-12-7	Miss G Russell (7)	75
505	U1-11	WHAT A HAND 16P (D,S,S) (Mrs L Roberts) R Barber 8-12-7	T Mitchell (5)	80
506	234/U-3U	BOOTSCRAPER 16P (F,G,S) (Mrs S Adams) E Reiter 9-12-0	A Farrant (5)	–
507	F0/SP-32	GYPSY KING 17 (Mrs N Wrighton) N Wrighton 8-12-0	A Coe (7)	92
508	0/P/22-U	NO JOKER 4 (F,S) (Brigadier R Hall) N Gaselee 8-12-0	R Hall (7)	–
509	032/4/P-	OLD STEINE 345P (Miss E Mackenzie) K Smith 8-12-0	I Johnson (7)	–
510	1UU/C4-	WHAT A TO DO 286P (D,S) (C Sweeting) C Sweeting 12-12-0	R Sweeting (7)	77

BETTING: 5-4 What A Hand, 4-1 Brown Windsor, 9-2 My Mellow Man, 7-1 Bootscraper, 10-1 others

1995: NO FIZZ 9-11-13 P Hacking (7-2) Mrs D Grissell 6 ran

FORM FOCUS

BROWN WINDSOR 11 2nd of 14 to Celtic Spark in open at Marks Tey (3m, good). MY MELLOW MAN beat Beech Grove 14l in 11-runner hunter chase at Warwick (3m 2f, good). ULLSWATER beat Call Me Early head in 10-runner handicap chase at Fakenham *(3m 5f, good). WHAT A HAND beat Still In* Business 3l in 9-runner mixed open at Larkhill (3m, good) BOOTSCRAPER 5l 3rd of 5 to Butler John in ladies open at Wadebridge (3m, good) penultimate start. GYPSY KING 5l 2nd of 9 to Sheer Jest in hunter chase at Fakenham (2m 5f, good)

Selection: BROWN WINDSOR

5.00 BONUSPRINT NOVICES HURDLE (Div II: £2,040: 2m 4f) (10 runners)

601	5	FIRST INSTANCE 19 (Pagan Racing) D Grissell 6-11-2	J R Kavanagh	72
602	5-5	FLIPPANCE 17 (C Rylance) N Gaselee 6-11-2	M A Fitzgerald	94
603		FOREST STAR 62F (Mrs A Naughton) R Akehurst 7-11-2	S Ryan (7)	–
604	0/PP/P	LOWAWATHA 5 (B) (Mrs E Heath) Mrs E Heath 8-11-2	D Bentley	–
605	0-P0	RAMBLING ON 10 (Mrs J Strange) C Drewe 6-11-2	R Farrant	–
606	53	SHERIFFMUIR 19 (J Wadham) Mrs L Wadham 7-11-2	G Hogan (3)	99
607	2/3-30	SILK WORD 41 (Silkword Racing Partnership) J Edwards 7-11-2	J R Kavanagh	98
608	630-000	TUKANO 18 (Mrs T McCoubrey) J Jenkins 5-11-2	R Dunwoody	94
609	40-36P0	TURRET 18 (Mr. T Byrne) R Brotherton 5-10-11	B Powell	80
610		FLY THE EAGLE 182F (S Darby) M Muggeridge 4-10-7	S Curran (3)	–

BETTING: 11-4 Flippance, 4-1 Sheriffmuir, 9-2 Forest Star, 5-1 Silk Word, 7-1 Tukano, 8-1 Turret, 12-1 others

1995: NO CORRESPONDING DIVISION

FORM FOCUS

FIRST INSTANCE 51l 5th of 14 to Escarrefigue in novice hurdle at Lingfield (2m 110yd, heavy). FLIPPANCE 10¾l 5th of 14 to Sir Leonard in novice hurdle at Sandown (2m 110yd, soft). SHERIFFMUIR 26½l 3rd of 14 to Superior Risk in maiden hurdle at Lingfield (2m 7f, heavy). SILK WORD 14¾l 3rd of 12 to El Rubio in novice hurdle at Haydock (2m, soft) penultimate start. TUKANO 31l 8th of 12 to Kingdom Of Shades in novice hurdle at Ascot (2m 110yd, soft). TURRET best recent effort 8¾l 6th of 14 to Express Travel in maiden hurdle at Uttoxeter (3m 110yd, good to firm).

Selection: FLIPPANCE

5.30 MARCH CONDITIONAL JOCKEYS HANDICAP HURDLE (£2,339: 2m) (11 runners)

1	5/6/400-	DOC'S COAT 338 (D,F,G,S) (M Keating) C Wildman 11-12-0	B Fenton	89
2	6-P21	*LIKOS 9 (D,G) (Miss C Fagerstrom) J Banks 5-11-9*	C Rae (5)	97
3	3U3-P4P	PLAYING TRUANT 47 (D,G) (D Moon) D Gandolfo 8-11-3	D Fortt	–
4	84/-R060	NATIVE CHIEFTAN 47 (D,F) (R Cross) S Dow 7-11-2	R Elkins (7)	88
5	R00F33	LAWNSWOOD JUNIOR 5 (F) (G Treglown) J Spearing 9-11-1	S Righton (3)	99
6	58-5610	KELLY MAC 17 (CD,S) (Mrs V O'Brien) D O'Brien 6-11-1	T J Murphy	98
7	521/0P3	SHANAKEE 16 (F) (A Williams) *B Llewellyn 9-10-12*	A Procter	96
8	5364	COURT JOKER 5 (The Court Jokers) Miss H Knight 4-10-10	G F Ryan	90
9	D6504	NESSUN DORO 7 (B) (Paul Porter & Partners) S Mellor 4-10-4	Chris Webb	94
10	56-6P03	WHAT'S THE JOKE 40 (James R Tuck) J Tuck 7-10-0	R Massey	96
11	D050-	COALISLAND 216F (P McKeenan) R Ingram 6-10-0	S Ryan	–

Long handicap: What's The Joke 9-7, Coalisland 9-7

BETTING: 3-1 Lawnswood Junior, 9-2 Shanakee, 5-1 Court Joker, 6-1 Kelly Mac, 7-1 What's The Joke, 8-1 Native Chieftan, Likos, 12-1 Nessun Doro, 14-1 others.

1995: FRANKIUS 5-10-0 Chris Webb (20-1) S Mellor 10 ran

FORM FOCUS

LIKOS beat Shamoor 13l in 20-runner selling hurdle at Doncaster (3m, good) LAWNSWOOD JUNIOR 10¼l 3rd of 16 to Nine O Three in handicap hurdle at Taunton (2m 1f, good to soft) KELLY MAC beat Persistent Gunner head in 12-runner course and distance handicap hurdle (soft) penultimate start with NATIVE CHIEFTAN (6lb better off) 38l 11th. SHANAKEE 5½l 3rd of 10 to Butler's Twitch in course and distance handicap hurdle (good to soft) COURT JOKER 12l 4th of 15 to Tonnere in Nottingham novice hurdle (3m, good to soft) NESSUN DORO 28¼l 4th to Arctic Maid in Plumpton novice hurdle (2m 4f, soft).

Selection: KELLY MAC

COURSE SPECIALISTS

TRAINERS	Wins	Runs	%	JOCKEYS	Winners	Rides	%
N Henderson	10	43	23.3	J R Kavanagh	5	31	16.1
C Drewe	3	15	20.0	R Dunwoody	8	50	16.0
P Hobbs	9	46	19.6	M A Fitzgerald	6	40	15.0
R Akehurst	6	33	18.2	D Gallagher	4	27	14.8
Miss H Knight	9	50	18.0	J Titley	3	21	14.3

UTTOXETER

THUNDERER

2.10 Goldwyn. 2.40 Rimouski. 3.15 Super Tactics. 3.45 Mr Kermit. 4.15 Mount Serrath. 4.50 Frys No Fool. 5.20 Wise King.

The Times Private Handicapper's top rating: 2.10 BACKGAMMON.

Our Newmarket Correspondent: 2.10 Beaumont.

GOING: GOOD — SIS

2.10 BULL INFORMATION SYSTEMS NOVICES HURDLE (£3,151: 2m) (16 runners)

1	0441	BACKGAMMON 79 (CD,F) J Old 5-11-8	G Upton	89
2	F-5	BEAUMONT 26F J Banks 6-11-2	K Gaule (3)	85
3	00	BIREQUEST 19 C Mann 5-11-2	J Railton	77
4	000-	CLIFFORDS TOWER 322 J Glover 5-11-2	T Reed	–
5		KING CURAN 208F A Bailey 5-11-2	T Kent	–
6		RISING MAN 529F A James 5-11-2	A Lamach (3)	–
7	0	SHALIK 93 G Brennan 6-11-2	S Fox (5)	–
8	06-0	SWEET TRENTINO 16 M Tate 5-11-2	P McLoughlin	–
9	FP	TRISQUARE 84 L Bailey 5-11-2	J Magee (3)	80
10	P6	RUBY ESTATE 130 A James 5-10-11	R Bellamy	–
11		EUROLINK SHADOW 137F D McCain 4-10-8	D McCain	–
12	240	GOLDWYN 74 D Nicholson 4-10-8	R Johnson (3)	81
13		KIROV PROTEGE 119F H Collingridge 4-10-8	M McKinney	–
14	0	PENTRE FFYNNON 30 J Berry 4-10-8	J Lodder	78
15	6PP	SMART GUEST 4 J A Harris 4-10-8	R Davis	–
16	P0	WOODLANDS LAD TOO 4 P Pritchard 4-10-8	R Johnson	–

10-11 Backgammon, 5-1 Goldwyn, 7-1 Trisquare, 8-1 Beaumont, 10-1 King Curan, 12-1 Kirov Protege, 14-1 Rising Man, 16-1 others.

2.40 BULL INFORMATION SYSTEMS HANDICAP HURDLE (£2,274: 2m 6f 110yd) (8)

1	13-2	HENRY CONE 41 (C,G) D Nicholson 7-12-0	R Johnson (3)	95
2	0000	RIMOUSKI 16 (B,C,G) B Cambidge 8-11-7	Mr J Cambidge	89
3	-F30	DARI SOUND 41 (F,G) J Fitzgerald 8-11-0	W Dwan	98
4	-6UP	LORD OF THE WEST 23 (G,S) J J O'Neill 7-10-7	A Roche (3)	–
5	-3-5	CHINAMAN 14 (F) J Mullins 7-10-2	R Greene	91
6	666-	HEATHYARDS BOY 411 (C,G,S) R Hollinshead 6-10-1	S Wynne	90
7	R/0-	PLAYFUL JULIET 289 (V,D,G,S) A Bailey 8-10-0	T Kent	–
8	-0P0	TARKOVSKY 46 (S) F Jordan 11-10-0	N Williamson	–

6-4 Henry Cone, 5-1 Rimouski, 5-1 Dari Sound, 6-1 Lord Of The West, 10-1 Chinaman, Playful Juliet 12-1 Heathyards Boy, 20-1 Tarkovsky

3.15 BULL INFORMATION SYSTEMS HANDICAP CHASE (£3,550: 2m 5f) (6)

After emotional retirement, Britain's beaten champion considers last, lucrative bout

Benn tempted by final showdown with Jones

BY SRIKUMAR SEN, BOXING CORRESPONDENT

NIGEL BENN may not be retiring after all. His supporters had feared that they would no longer thrill to the drama of a Benn contest once he announced his retirement from the ring after his defeat by Thulane Malinga, of South Africa, at Newcastle on Saturday.

He is not only thinking of carrying on, however, but also he believes that he could be going for a third world title. That one could be a multi-million dollar affair against Roy Jones Jr, considered the best boxer pound-for-pound in the world, and the man whom Benn most wants to meet.

When the split decision in favour of Malinga was announced, Benn took the microphone from the master of ceremonies and told the capacity crowd of 10,000 at the Newcastle Arena that he was finished with boxing.

"I've done my bit for British boxing," he said. Then, with his voice breaking, he added: "It's time for me to call it a day." He was so carried away with emotion that, even as Malinga started celebrating, Benn went down on one knee and proposed to his girlfriend, Caroline Jackson.

"This is the girl who picked me up through everything," he said. "I'd like to say, Caroline, will you marry me." Caroline bent down and kissed him and picked him up yet again.

Benn was so depressed after defeat that he did not attend the post-bout press conference. Yesterday, however, he said that he was going off on a long break to think about his future. He seemed to see the defeat as a timely warning. "This could give me a chance to go for a third world title," he said. "I don't think I am shot or punch-drunk. I needed a kick up the backside. I don't want to go out like this. If it had been against Gerald McClellan, it would have been goodnight and goodbye.

Results ..... page 33

"I was in an emotional state. I am going on holiday to think about it and talk it over with my girlfriend. I will decide when I come back. I realise it wasn't me in the ring. I was mentally unprepared. I thought it was going to be an easy night. I just did not have the fear factor which is what I need to perform at my best."

While Benn's immediate target could be Steve Collins, the World Boxing Organisation champion, it is the bout with Jones that would bring in the most money. Jones is the man to provide the fear factor. That bout has always seemed impossible to arrange because of the interests of HBO and Showtime, the rival American television companies, backing Jones and Benn respectively. Now, however, the chance of the biggest super-middleweight bout to be put on looks a real possibility.

Now that Benn is no longer the World Boxing Council champion, he could be ranked by the International Boxing Federation (IBF) as the No 1 mandatory challenger for Jones's title. The bout would then have to go to purse offers and the television company that puts up the most money would get the contest.

John Hornewer, Jones's legal adviser, said that the champion is still as keen as ever to meet Benn, if a way could be found round the problem of television company rivalry. Hornewer even said, before the bout with Malinga, that, if Benn were to establish himself as the IBF No 1, Jones might consider giving Benn a challenge on a 50-50 split of the purse, instead of the usual 25-75 shareout.

Hornewer added that he would be putting the idea to Jones. However, now that Benn has lost his crown — and no painful relinquishing of the title would be required merely to get the IBF to rank Benn as No 1 — the way to the bout with Jones seems cleared of most obstacles. Benn has always said that 1996 would be his last year, and he would like to go out with the final "tear-up" with Jones.

It was not surprising to see Benn wanting to retire after a hard campaign over nine years and after being comprehensively outpointed by an ageing opponent — Malinga is 36 — who is himself contemplating retirement. Benn's right eye was closed, the left no more than a slit and his lip was split, all from the jab that was in his face all night and a chopping right hand.

Benn had retired once before, after a similarly hard bout with Eubank in 1990, but had been persuaded to return by his friend, Peter de Freitas. De Freitas is his manager now and, even though he wants *him to retire, the chances of a* lucrative bout with Jones could put a new perspective on the future of both De Freitas and Benn.

Barry McGuigan, the boxing analyst for Sky Sport, a channel of Sky TV, 40 per cent owned by News Corporation, owner of *The Times*, said: "Nigel went to the well once too often: he found it dry."

Yet from his performance it did not seem that Benn had lost all his fight. He simply met the wrong type of boxer on an off night. Benn has shown that he is not only the most exciting boxer but also the most courageous, as well, by coming back from severe defeats by Michael Watson and Eubank to become arguably the third best boxer pound-for-pound in the world, behind Jones and Oscar De La Hoya.

On the night, Malinga proved too smart for Benn. From the first round, he proceeded to give him a boxing lesson, and only once did he forget his plan to jab and move. That was in the fifth, when Benn caught him with the right and floored him, but, after taking his full eight count rest, Malinga stayed clear of any more trouble during that round. Benn never got another chance.

At the end, one of the judges had Benn nine rounds behind, another five. One judge, Chuck Giampa, of the United States, thought that Benn had won by two points. He was on his own in the hall of 10,000.

Malinga, who received a special message of encouragement from Nelson Mandela before the bout, will go back to a hero's welcome.

SEAN DEMPSEY



Malinga backs Benn against the ropes and rocks the battered Briton with a ferocious right hand



Tearful Benn announces his retirement from the ring

Entrants ready to put their cards on the table

BY ROBERT WRIGHT

THE TIMES Midland Private Banking National Bridge Challenge, the largest bridge tournament staged in the United Kingdom, is proving a massive success with experts and novices alike.

More than 2,000 pairs have already entered in search of a share of the £21,000 prize fund covering four categories — one expert and three non-expert — but there is still time for further heats to be organised. Entry costs £6 per person, 20 per cent of which goes to the National Trust.

With direct mailing to bridge and golf clubs, more than 5,000 items of post have already been dispatched. During the three weeks since the competition's launch, more than 1,700 postal and telephone inquiries have been received.

One query that keeps cropping up from clubs is whether a non-playing director is needed for entry to the tournament. The organisers have decided that this is no longer a requirement, provided that scoring is not done until play has finished.

The issue of the kits that are needed to run heats is commencing, with 140 heats having been organised, involving more than 4,000 players.

Heats will take place throughout the country and involve not only bridge clubs, bridge sections of golf, tennis, bowls, croquet and other social clubs, but also groups of social players who have formed their own heats.

Teams range from the Dangerous Aces, in St Andrews, to the Hurst Players, in Brighton, and from Brian's Babes, in Salford, to the Zebra Pub, in Cambridge.

Any players wishing to take part but who have found that their usual club will not be holding a heat can contact the Challenge office on 0181 942 9506 for details of an alternative club in their area.

Last British place goes to Denmark

BY DAVID POWELL
ATHLETICS CORRESPONDENT

GREAT BRITAIN yesterday selected a nine-man team consisting entirely of Englishmen for the world cross country championships in Stellenbosch, South Africa, on March 23. The one chance of Welsh or Scottish representation was rejected when Rob Denmark was included despite finishing tenth in the trial at Stakeford, Northumberland, earlier in the day.

The first seven home in the trial were assured of selection, with the last two names added at the selectors' discretion. Jon Brown, after showing form in a road race in Florida eight days earlier, did not contest the trial, but was given the eighth place. The last went to Denmark, the Commonwealth 5,000 metres champion, though he finished behind Nick Comerford, of Wales, and Robert Quinn, of Scotland.

In a decision backed by David Clarke, the team manager, the selectors picked Denmark because they felt that he was more likely than Comerford, Quinn, or Christian Stephenson, the Welsh champion, to be prominent on the fast, flat course in Stellenbosch. "He has the leg speed to perform well, and he could be the difference between a medal and not winning a medal," Clarke said.

The course at Northumberland was muddy and hilly and Denmark had not raced since December after injury and illness. "I am not race-fit, but I am definitely going to get better," he said.

Steve Harris apart, the top seven were much as expected, although Keith Cullen's victory over Andrew Pearson was a small surprise. Harris arrived hoping to scrape into the top 20; competing in the world championships by finishing as high as seventh had not entered his head.

Cullen, Pearson and Chris Sweeney, who was third, have run consistently well this winter. John Nutall, fifth yesterday, underlined his endurance to go with the speed that took him to a Commonwealth 5,000 metres bronze medal. It is to be hoped that Cullen is not superstitious. Not since 1989 has the trial winner been the leading Briton in the world championship.

In the absence of the injured Paula Radcliffe, Alison Wyeth won the women's trial. Indoors against France the previous weekend, Wyeth had run a victory lap after the 3,000 metres and given away the winner's flowers. Then she learnt that she had finished second, pipped by 0.01sec by Laurence Duquenoy. Wyeth left nothing to chance yesterday, pulling away long before the finish.

Radcliffe, Britain's only hope for an individual medal in Stellenbosch, has not trained since Wednesday, but her coaches said yesterday that her physiotherapist expected her to resume this week. Radcliffe hurt her knee and back while racing eight days ago, missed the trial, but was, as expected, included in the team.



Wyeth: made no mistake

WORLD CHAMPIONSHIP TEAMS: Men: K Cullen (Chelmsford), A Pearson (Longwood), C Sweeney (Tipton), A Passey (Bromsgrove), J Nuttall (Preston), D Burrows (Birchfield), S Harris (Bexhill), J Brown (Shetfield), R Denmark (Basildon) Women: A Wyeth (Parkside), L Talbot (Bedford), A Hulley (Leeds), V McPherson (Glasgow), P Radcliffe (Bedford), S McGeorge (Brighton)

SHEEHAN on BRIDGE

BY ROBERT SHEEHAN, BRIDGE CORRESPONDENT

This is a hand sent to me by L. E. Handley, of Chinnor, who was South. It has a good technical play, and a good psychological play (compensates for the bidding, I suppose).

Dealer North **North-South vulnerable** **Pairs**

	♠AQJ74 ♥A107 ♦106 ♣J92	
♠1086 ♥KQ3 ♦2 ♣1087654	N W E S	♠K532 ♥98654 ♦95 ♣A3
	♠9 ♥J2 ♦AKQJ8743 ♣KQ	

W	N	E	S
—	1 S	Pass	4 NT (1)
Pass	5 S	Pass	6 NT
All Pass			

Final contract: 6 NT by South — Lead: king of hearts

(1) Mr Handley informs me that 4 NT was Roman Key card Blackwood, and that Five Spades showed two aces and the queen of spades. What use that information was to South, I do not know. In my view, South should have bid Two Diamonds over One Spade, aiming to manoeuvre into 3 NT if North turns up with a minimum.

When West led the king of hearts, declarer played low from both hands. This was an excellent play; after ducking, declarer had 11 tricks — eight diamonds, a spade and two hearts with the aid of the marked finesse. As West had no idea that declarer had eight solid diamonds, West continued hearts and South won in hand. He crossed to dummy with the ten of diamonds, cashed the ace of hearts (throwing the king of clubs) and ran off all the diamonds. In the two-card ending, East had to come down to the king of spades and the ace of clubs, and exhibited signs of pressure in the process. So Handley led low to the ace of spades and dropped East's king to make the contract. If East had discarded smoothly, the best chance of making the contract would have been to take the spade finesse.

☐ For details of *The Times* Midland Private Banking *National Bridge challenge*, contact the event organisers on 0181-942 9506 or write to: Britannic Building, Beverley Way, New Malden, Surrey, KT3 4PH *or fax to:* 0181-942 9569

☐ Robert Sheehan writes on bridge Monday to Friday in Sport and in the Weekend section on Saturday.

KEENE on CHESS

BY RAYMOND KEENE
CHESS CORRESPONDENT

Oxford v Cambridge

The 1996 University match, sponsored by Watson, Farley and Williams, the City solicitors, took place at the Royal Automobile Club and resulted in a win for Cambridge University. The full results were as follows:

Oxford		Cambridge
Dharshan Kumaran	draw	*Jonathan Parker*
Maxim Devereaux	draw	Matthew Turner
Joel Ovaknine	draw	Mark Ferguson
Andreas Westphalen	draw	Demis Hassabis
Jeffrey Titmas	0-1	Aron Cohen
Alex Lewis	0-1	*David Cristinacce*
Chris Blake	0-1	Daniel Rosenberg
Susan Little	1-0	Emilia Holland

Cambridge won by 5-3.

The following was one of the best wins.

White: Jeffrey Titmas

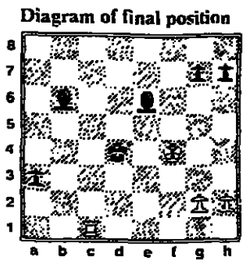
Black: Aron Cohen

University match, March 1996

Irregular Opening

1	e4	d6	24	Nxd8	Rxd8
2	d4	Nf6	25	Rxd8	Bxd8
3	Bd3	e5	26	Rb1	Bb6
4	c3	d5	27	Kf1	Kxc3
5	dxe5	Nxe4	28	ke2	Bxa2
6	Bxe4	dxe4	29	Rc1+	Kd4
7	Qxd8+	Kxd8	30	f4	Bc4+
8	Bf4	Nd7	31	Kf3	a5
9	Ne2	Nc5	32	f5	a4
10	0-0	Bg4	33	Kf4	a3
11	Ng3	Nd3	34	e6	fxe6
12	Be3	Nxb2	35	fxe6	Bxe6
13	Nxe4	Nc4	White resigns		
14	Bd4	Bf5			
15	Nbd2	Nxd2			
16	Nxd2	c5			
17	Be3	Be7			
18	Nc4	Kc7			
19	Rfd1	Be6			
20	Nd6	Kc6			
21	Rd2	Rhd8			
22	Bxc5	Kxc5			
23	Nxb7+	Kc4			

Diagram of final position



☐ Raymond Keene writes on chess Monday to Friday in Sport and in the Weekend section on Saturday.

WORD-WATCHING

By Philip Howard

CONCHE
a. A wooden head
b. An East-End knees up
c. To knead

FAUNIZONE
a. Bambiland or New Labour
b. A collection of fossils
c. A *state of careless* abandonment

BEEGA
a. A measurement of land
b. Term given to those over 7ft
c. An Indian warplane

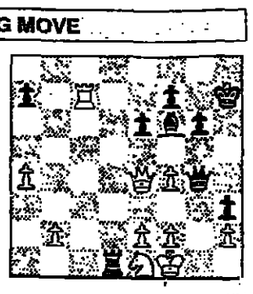
ATOLE
a. Corn gruel
b. Feudal system of parliament
c. A collection of academics

Answers on page 37

WINNING MOVE

By Raymond Keene

Black to play. This position is from the game Vagh — Chabanon, Geneva, 1996. Black has made promising inroads into the white kingside, but at present appears hampered by a threat against his f7-pawn. How did he prove that his threats were the more important?



Solution on page 37

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LEGAL NOTICES

EAST RIVER (KNITWEAR) LIMITED - IN RECEIVERSHIP
NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN, pursuant to Section 48 of the Insolvency Act 1986, that a meeting of the creditors of the above named company will be held on 14th March 1996 at Sherlock House, 7 Kenrick Place, London W1M 3FF at 11 00am for the purposes of having an account laid before them, showing the events leading up to the appointment of the Joint Administrative Receivers, the manner in which the administrative receivership has been conducted and the property of the company disposed of, and of hearing any explanation that may be given by the Administrative Receiver. Creditors whose claims are wholly secured are not entitled to attend or be represented.
Please note that a creditor is entitled to vote only if he has delivered to the Administrative Receiver not later than 1200 hrs on Wednesday 13 March 1996 details in writing of the debt claimed to be due from the company, and the claim has been duly admitted under the provisions of the Insolvency Rules 1986 and there has been lodged with the Administrative Receiver any proxy that the creditor intends to be used on his behalf.
Dated 29 February 1996.
R Hocking,
Administrative Receiver

Ebury & Evesham Securities Limited
In Administrative Receivership
Registered No: 2754954
NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN pursuant to Section 48 of the Insolvency Act 1986 that a general meeting of the unsecured creditors for the above named company will be held at The Brewers Rooms, The Brewers Association, 42 Portman Square, London W1 on Thursday 14 March 1996 at 11.00 hrs for the purpose of having a report laid before the meeting and of hearing any explanation that may be given by the Administrative Receiver. Creditors whose claims are wholly secured are not entitled to attend or be represented.
Please note that a creditor is entitled to vote only if he has delivered to the Administrative Receiver not later than 1200 hrs on Wednesday 13 March 1996 details in writing of the debt claimed to be due from the company, and the claim has been duly admitted under the provisions of the Insolvency Rules 1986 and there has been lodged with the Administrative Receiver any proxy that the creditor intends to be used on his behalf.
Dated 29 February 1996.
R Hocking,
Administrative Receiver

THE INSOLVENCY ACT 1986
Warwick Film Productions Limited
Domino Productions Limited
Verseny Films Limited
(In Liquidation)
NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the creditors of the above named companies are required, on or before 1st April 1996, to send in their full names and addresses and descriptions, full particulars of their debts or claims and the names and addresses of their solicitors (if any), to me, Richard William James Long of Begbie Norton & Partners, 1 & 2 Raymond Buildings, Gray's Inn, London WC2R 3BZ the Liquidator of the companies and, if so required by notice in writing from the said Liquidator, are, personally or by their solicitors, to come in and prove their debts or claims at such time and place as shall be specified in such notice, or in default thereof they will be excluded from the benefit of any distribution made before such debts are proved.
This notice is purely formal. All known creditors should be paid in full.
Dated 26th February 1996
R W J Long, Liquidator

THE INSOLVENCY ACT 1986
PERFECT FEATURES LIMITED
NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN pursuant to Section 98 of the Insolvency Act 1986, that a Meeting of the Creditors of the above named Company will be held at Buchler Phillips, 84 Grosvenor Street, London W1X 9DF on 12 March 1996 at 10.00 am for the purposes mentioned in Section 99 to 101 of the said Act.
A list of names and addresses of the Company's creditors will be available for inspection free of charge at Buchler Phillips, 84 Grosvenor Street, London W1X 9DF between 10.00 am and 4.00 pm on 11 March 1996.
Creditors wishing to vote at the meeting must lodge a full statement of account and an informal proof of debt unless attending in person a proxy at Buchler Phillips, 84 Grosvenor Street, London W1X 9DF not later than 12.00 noon on 11 March 1996. Secured Creditors must, unless they surrender their security, give particulars of their security and its assessed value if they wish to vote at the Meeting.
Dated 26 February 1996.
By Order of the Board.
G. Corley, Director

Notice of Appointment of Administrative Receivers
Hennelly Leisure Limited
Registered number: 2376490
Trading name: Hennelly's The Wattle Hart, Tottenham, Nature of business: Licensed Premises, Trade classification: 48, Date of appointment of administrative receivers: 28 February 1996
Name of person appointing the administrative receivers: Allied Irish Banks Plc, Joint Administrative Receivers: G S Kinlan and P A Cogg (office holder nos: 8268/01 and 1788/01, Address: BDO Stoy Hayward & Bailey Street, London W1M 1DA

IN THE MATTER OF THE INSOLVENCY ACT 1986 AND IN THE MATTER OF SOUNTY BOATS (BRUNDALL) LIMITED
(In Administrative Receivership)
NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN Pursuant to Section 48 of The Insolvency Act 1986 that a meeting of creditors of the above company will be held at the offices of Price Waterhouse, No 1 London Bridge, London SE1 9QL on 1 April 1996 at 11 00 am for the purpose of receiving the report of the Joint Administrative Receivers and if creditors wish to do so, to appoint a creditors committee.
Dated 6 day of March 1996
A J Barrett,
Joint Administrative Receiver

COMPANY NOTICES

QUEBEC CENTRAL RAILWAY COMPANY
Notice to Security Holders
The Annual General Meeting of the Security Holders of Quebec Central Railway Company will be held in The Conference Room, Room 188, Windsor Station, Montreal, Quebec, Canada, on Wednesday, the 17th day of April, 1996, at the hour of 11:00 o'clock in the forenoon, for presentation of the financial statements, the election of two directors to represent the Security Holders of the Company until the next Annual General Meeting of the Company, the appointment of the auditor of the Company, and for the transaction of such other business as may properly come before the meeting
BY ORDER OF THE BOARD
D.J. Kezar
Secretary
MONTREAL, Quebec.
February 22, 1996

LEGAL, PUBLIC, COMPANY & PARLIAMENTARY NOTICES
TO PLACE NOTICES FOR THIS SECTION PLEASE TELEPHONE
0171-782 7344
OR
FAX: 0171-782 7827
Notices are subject to confirmation and should be received by 2.30pm two days prior to insertion.

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FOR THE RECORD

ATHLETICS

SAN VITTORE OLANO, Italy: Cinque Mulini IAAF cross country meeting: *Men: (11.5km):* 1, P Tergat (Ken) 35min 46sec 2, P Guerra (Por) 36 11. 3, G Di Napoli (It) (Por) 36.34 IAAF standings: 1, J Kariuki (Ken) 97pts, 2, P Tergat (Kenya) 75. 3, P Mosima (Ken) 64. 4, A Pearson (GB) 54. 6, C Sweeney (GB) 49; equal 8, K Cullen (GB) 44 Women (6.7km) 1, M Dendouba (Eth) 23min 19sec. 2, S Barsosio (Ken) 23.21. 3, F Barsosio (Ken) 23.34; 4, C De Reuck (SA) 23.35; 5, D Zahre (Mor) 24.10. IAAF standings: 1, R Cheruiyot (Ken) 94pts, 2, P Radcliffe (GB) 91, 3, G Szabo (Rom) 85

STAKEFORD: British Athletic Federation cross countrychampionships: *Men (7.6m):* 1, K Cullen (Chelmsford) 31min 26sec, 2, A Pearson (Longwood) 31:38; 3, C Sweeney (Tipton) 31.40; 4, A Passey (Bromsgrove) 31:56, 5, *J Nuttall (Preston)* 32:05; 6, D Burrows (Birchfield) 32:12 Juniors (4.8m). 1, A Oldfield (Tipton) 21:08, 2, K Nash (Aldershot) 21:14; 3, S Wilkinson (*Loughborough*) *21:16* Women (3.9m). 1, A Wyeth (Parkside) 18.22, 2, L Talbot (Bedford) 18:27; 3, A Hulley (Leeds) 18:32; 4, V McPherson (Glasgow) 18 33; 5, H *Titterington (Charnwood)* 18 38, 6, A Whitcombe (Parkside) 18:43 Juniors (2.6m): 1, M Mann (Preston) 13 32; 2, S Fairweather (Glasgow Univ) 13 46, 3, T Povey (*South West*) 13 51

Weymouth: TSB English schools cross countrychampionships: Senior boys (7.95km): 1, A Stone (Devon) 26 50, 2 M Brown (Northumberland) 27 15, 3, M Green (Lancashire) 27.29 Teams: 1, Greater Manchester 233pts; 2, kent 260; 3, Hampshire 350. Senior girls(4.5km): 1, A Waterfall (Cheshire) 17 04; 2, V Wilkinson (North Yorkshire) 17 13, 3, K Martin (Staffordshire) 17.15. Teams: 1, North Yorkshire 145, 2, West Yorkshire 277; 3, Lancashire 319 Intermediate boys (6.45km)' 1, R Faulkner (Leicestershire) 21:28, 2, J Siddons (Leicestershire) 21:34' 3, K Steele (Cumbria) 21.37 Team: 1, Hampshire 226; 2, Sussex 377; 3, Lancashire 381 Intermediate girls (4km) 1, J Swallow (Essex) 14:21, 2, C Walsh (Middlesex) 14:35; 3, C Campbell (*Hertfordshire*) 15:35. Team: Hertfordshire 315.

ATLANTA: Mobil indoor championships (US unless stated): Men: 60m: 1, D Powell (*Jam*) 6 56; 2, K *Williams* 6.56; 3, M Marsh 6 80. 200m: 1, K Little *20.46*; 2, J Williams 20.61; 3, D Dopek 20.70 400m: 1, M Johnson 44.66; 2, D Mills 45 60; 3, M Ramsey 45.86. 800m: 1, R Brandon 1:48 71. 2, D Kipruto (Ken) 1:48 74. 3, *R* Kenah 1:49.20 Miler: 1, S Holman 3 57 72, 2, J Pyrah 3:58.69, 3, M O'Sullivan (Ire) *3.58 96. 3,000m:* 1, K Karouani (Mor) 7:46 77; 2, B Kennedy 7:47.41; 3, B Baker 7 47.47 5,000m walk: 1, A James 20:02.59, 2, G Morgan 20:06.02, 3, C Clausen 20 17.96. 60m hurdles: 1, C Hawkins 7 46sec; 2, A Johnson 7.50, 3, D Knight 7.65 High jump: 1, C Austin 2.37m; 2, R Jenkins 2.28, 3, H Conway 2.23 Long jump: 1, E Walder 8 10m; 2, K Streete-Thompson 7.97, 3, M Conley 7.90. Triple jump: 1, L Carter 17.12, 2, D Hurn 16.81, 3, J Romain *16 74.* Pole vault: 1, P Manson 20 36m, 2, C J Hunter 20 25, 3 R Backes C Mondie-Milner 7.17, 3, H Hyche 7.24 400m: 1, M Malone 51 48, 2 J Miles 51 57, *3,* S Porter 52.06 200m: 1, G Torrence *22.33* (US record), 2 D Young 22 71, 3 C Guidry-White 22.97 800m: 1 J Clark 2 00 90; 2 J Jenkins-Donley 2 01 16; 3, A Hill 2 01 65 Mile: 1, S Best 4 34 67 2, S Thorsett 4.35.00, 3, K *Franey* 4 35 73 3,000m: 1, J Nesbit 8 56 01 2, A Rudolph 9 00 58, 3, F Bansel 9.24 52 3,000m walk: 1, M Rohl 12min 56 90sec; 2, M Torellas 13 09 56, 3, *V Herazo 13 13.29* 60m hurdles: 1, M Freeman (Jam) 7 91sec; 2 T Lawson 7 98, 3, C Dickey 8 08 High jump: 1, T Waller 1 99m, 2, A Bradburn 1.92; 3, C *Loor-Jaeger* 1 92 Long jump: 1, S Williams 6 79 m, 2, M Veiteman 6 46, 3, D Nathan 6 42 Triple jump: 1, S Hudson 14.21m; 2, C Rhodes 13.93, 3, C Shannon 13 49 Shot: 1, C Price-Smith 18 82m; 2, R Pagel 17 97; 3, V Althouse 17 89

OHTSU, Japan: Biwako Mainichi marathon: 1 J Pinheiro (*Por*) *2 hrs 9min 32sec*; 2, E Wainaina (Ken) 2 10 37; 3, A Mekonnen (Eth) 2.11 55, 4, P Carroll (Aus) 2 12:00; 5, T Negere (Eth) 2 12 11.

BASKETBALL

NATIONAL ASSOCIATION (NBA): Atlanta 74 Cleveland 68; Seattle 105 Boston 86, Portland 102 Miami 88, Minnesota 105 Charlotte 101, Utah 99 New York 88; Chicago 110 Golden State 67; Detroit 102 Phoenix 97; Dallas 119 Vancouver 111, Los Angeles Lakers 100 Washington 95

BUDWEISER LEAGUE: Derby 85 Thames Valley 79, Leicester 82 Birmingham 88, Manchester 94 Doncaster 69; Worthing 91 Newcastle 103 Leading standings: 1, London Towers pld 26, 44pts; 2, Sheffield 26-42, 3, Birmingham 26-36

CLASSIC COLA NATIONAL CUP: Final: London 70 Sheffield 58(at Sheffield Arena)

NATIONAL LEAGUE: Men: First division: *Bury 85 Solent 87.* Coventry 90 Plymouth 80' Ware 116 Oldham and Rochdale 61 Women: First division: Ipswich 67 Northampton 48; London 61 Barking and Dagenham 77 Plymouth 48 Thames Valley 64

BILLIARDS

WIGAN: Strachan British Open: Final: R Chapman (Engl bt M Russell (Eng) 1616-772.

BOWLS

SOUTHAMPTON: Women's All-England Indoor Championships: Fours: Semi-finals: Egham (D Hankin) bt Rushden Town (E Stubbs) 21-19; Chartwell (S Lacey) bt Cotswold (J Lee) 19-17. Final: Chartwell (P Maskrey, A Allmond, K Hewes, S Lacey) bt Egham (N Beales. S McNeil, P Garden, D Hankin) 22-19. Under-31 Singles: Quarter-finals: L Thomas (Riverain) bt S Rippenos (Desborough, Northampton) 21-16, S Hazell (Mote Park) bt H Utting (Acle, Norwich) 21-18, S Seymour (City of Ely) bt C Northall (Teignbridge) 21-11. L Whitehead (Norfolk) bt S Fitcroft (Cumbria) 21-19 *Semi-finals: Thomas bt Hazell 21-13; Whitehead bt Seymour 21-11.* Final: Thomas bt Whitehead 21-14 Two-wood triples: First round: Atherley (E Farnell) bt *Exmouth Madeira* (M Gooding) 20-17. Prince Arthur (P Carr) bt Sutton (E Hurley) 24-9; Desborough Maidenhead (M Hooper) bt County Arts (M Doggett) 19-3; Pickerts Lock (S White) bt Egham (M Nutley) 21-11; York (P Napier) bt Worthing (L Inch) 19-11. Ilminster (B Kitson) bt Cotswold (J Lee) 20-13. Towerlands (C Duckworth) bt Cumbria (E Gass) 18-10; Bassetlaw (E Loosley) bt Kingsthorpe (E Wittering) 17-13

BOXING

NEWCASTLE ARENA: World Boxing Council super-middleweight Championship (12rds) Thulane Malinga (SA) bt Nigel Benn (Ilford, holder) pts. Undercard: International Boxing Federation featherweight Championship (12rds) Tom Johnson (US, holder) bt Ever Beligno (Col) rsc 12th Light-heavyweight (8rds): Crawford Ashley (Leeds) bt Ray Kane (Ire) ko 2nd Middleweight (8rds): Geoff McCreesh (Bracknell) bt Peter Varnavas (Burnley) pts. Welterweight (8rds): Alan Temple (Hartlepool) bt Frankie Foster (Newcastle) pts. Super-bantamweight (4rds) Colin Innes (Newcastle) bt Gary Hickman (Sunderland) pts

YOKOHAMA, Japan: World Boxing Council junior-featherweight Championship (12rds) Daniel Zaragoza (Mex, holder) bt Joichiro Tatsuyoshi (Japan) ko 11th

CYCLING

VALENCIA, Spain: Tour of Valencia: Final leading standings: 1, L Jalsberi (Fr) 21hrs *8min 33sec*; *2, I Cuesta* (Sp) at 20sec; 3, M Rojas (Sp) 28; 4, A Gormendia (Sp) 1min 29sec; 5, R Sierra (Sp) 2:33

CATANIA, Sicily: Tour of Etna (151.7km, *Italy unless stated):* 1, F Fontanelli 4hr 11 51sec; 2, G Lombardi at 9sec; 3, A Bath all same time.

TOUR OF LANGKAWE Second stage: 185 km: 1 G Mitchell (NZ) 4hr 30min 06sec; 2 C Anderson (Den); 3 J Christen (Switz); 4 B Steel (GB) all same time. Leading *positions: 1 B Steel (GB) 5hr 14min 55sec*; 2 C Newton (GB) same time; 3 J Sweet (*Australia*) at 1 08sec.

ROAD RACES: Alnesse, Liverpool: Kirkby CC-Eddie Soens Handicap (50m) 1, D Williams (Team Ambrosia) 1hr 46min 30sec; 2, R Ellingworth (Team Ambrosia) at 21sec; 3 G Holmes (Rennrad Club, Norwich) same time. Limpsfield, Surrey: Dulwich Primavera (77m): 1, G Baker (Olympia Sport) 3:15:27; 2, R Hurd (*Wembley RC*), 3, D Rand (*Team Energy*) all same time, Middleton, Northamptonshire: Rockingham Forest Wheelers (60m): 1, J Bayfield (Allendale RT) 2.22:20: 2, J Tonks (Parker International RT); 3, S Dangerfield (Parker Int RT) all same time.

TIME TRIALS: East Surrey RC: 33 miles: 1, T Stevens (Team 2000) 1:12:36; 2, J Clarke (De Laune CC) 1 13.58; 3, P. Main (Wembley RC) 1 14 04 **Team:** Sydenham Wheelers 3.58.48 **Spalding CC** (29.5m)' 1, G Dighton (Leo RC) 1:05:48, 2, A Horner (VC Camelot) 1 08:27; 3, I Cammish (Velo Vionto) 1 10.41 Team: Peterborough CC 3 43.43 North Lancashire: Circuit of Pendle (27.3m)' 1, G Butler (Norwood Paragon) 1 01 48 (course record); 2, M Taylor (Clayeleys RC) 1.05.28; 3, D Watts (Halifax RC) 1 06.57. Team: Team Rapide 3:27 50. Featherstone RC (25m): 1, H Walker (GS Metro) 57 08; 2, I Cooke (Optimum Performance RT) 58:29, 3, J Wainman (Hull Thursday RC) 59.04. Team: GS Metro (fastest 3rd rider) 1:03:13 Port Talbot Wheelers (25m): 1, J Pritchard and C Prichard (Olympia Sport) 52:50; 2, G Evans and J Phillips (Port Talbot Wh) 56:15. 3 A Dawes and A Rhodes (Ystwyth CC) 57 03.

GOLF

BONMONT, Spain: Catalan Open: Final scores (36 holes played due to high winds, GB and Ire unless stated): 135: P Lawrie 65, 70 136: F Rosa (Sp) 66, 70. 137: D Hospital (Sp) 66, 71 138: A Sherborne 67, 71; E Bolognesi (It) 71, 67 139: J Caceres (Arg) 67, 72, J C Pinero (Sp) 68, 71. 140: D Howell 66, 74; C Suneson 74, 66. 141: M A Martin (Sp) 71, 70; R Green 73, 68, S McAllister 72, 69, J Rivero (Sp) 69, 72; E Romero (Arg) 71, 70 142: M Pinero (Sp) 71, 71; A Forsbrand (Swe) 74, 68, P Lyman (Sp) 72, 70; R Muntz (Holl) 72, 70; P Baker 70, 72: D A Russell 72, 70; P McGinley 72, 70, E Giraud (Fr) 72, 70 143: R Dinsdale 70, 73; P Sjoland (Swe) 72, 71, M Moreno (Sp) 74, 69; M Wills 69, 74; N Briggs 72, 71; S Luna (Sp) 74, 69; M Hellberg (Swe) 70, 73; M Plummer 73, 70 144: A Sorensen (Den) 71, 73, P Nyman (Swe) 71, 73, D Borrego (Sp) 73, 71; P Hamington 75, 69; F Lindgren (Swe) 72, 72; S Field 70, 74, G Emerson 70, 74, R Drummond 73, 71, F Valera (Sp) 72, 72; A Colleson 72, 72, 145: E Canonica (It) 71, 74, A Oldcorn 71, 74; S Cage 73, 72, J Rozadilla (Sp) 72, 73, S Hurley 70, 75; R Jacquelin (Fr) 74, 71; J M Carriloo (Sp) 74, 71; J Bickerton 72, 73; M Besancenay (Fr) 72, 73; D Williams 70, 75, P Mitchell 74, 71, M Angles (Swe) 75, 70; J Mellor 76, 69 146: I Felau (Sp) 73, 73, D Gilford 70, 76 P Way 73, 73; D Cooper 74, 72; R Boxall 76, 70, G Ralph 72, 74; S Watson 69, 77; M Tunnicliff 72, 74, O Rojahn (Nor) 72, 74; P Walton 75, 71; M McLean 73, 73; *J Cuoros* (Sp) 71, 75

MIAMI: Doral-Ryder Open: Third-round scores (US unless stated) 203: G Norman *(Aus) 70, 66, 67, V Singh (Fiji) 67, 69, 67.* 205: J Ozaki (Japan) 69, 65, 71; M Bradley 64, 71, 70, 208: G Day 68, 71, 67, L Clements 71, 67, 68 207: B Crenshaw 68, 71, 68; M Brisky 66, 73, 68; J Kelly 67, 71, 69, 208: J Morse 67, 73, 68; J Haas 72, 68, 68; P Burke 67, 73, 68; J Parnevik (Swe) 68, 71, 69; K Clearwater 72, 67, 69; F Allem (SA) 67, 71, 70 209: S *Verplank 66, 74, 69;* R Fehr 69, 71 70; C Pavin 68, 72, 71; R Floyd 68, 70, 71; J Maniila (Fin) 45 36 7; 6 J E Bard (Nor) 45'43.0. World Cup standings: 1, Apeland 1,246; 2, K Ogawara (Japan) 1,068; 3, Manilla 1,006; 4, Vik 761; 5, S Guillaume (Fr) 692; 6, F B Lundberg (Nor) 612

70; W Austin 69, 71, 71, L Janzen 63, 76 72, B McCallister 68, 71, 72, J Leonard 68, 69, 73

OJAI, California: Healthcare Senior Classic: Second-round scores: 131: G Player (SA) 64, 67 132: T Shaw 66, 66, J Kiefer 64, *68 133: W Morgan 62, 71 134: L Lacreb* 68, 66. 135: J Schroeder 70, 65 D Weaver 68, 67; R Thompson 68, 67 T Wargo 65, 70 136: J Jacobs 69, 67 D Stockton 69, 67, B *Allin 68, 68, D Douglass 68, 68, J Jimenez* 67, 69, G Archer 65, 71; J Sigel 65, 71

GYMNASTICS

PARIS: International tournament: Men: Pommel horse: 1, E Pouyade (Fr) 9 800; 2, *M Urzica (Rom)* 9.737; 3, Y Hasukoda (Japan) 9.712. Floor: 1, G Msulin (Ukr) 9 712; 2, T Aymes (Fr) 9 625, 3, A Demianov (Cro) 9 550 Rings: 1, Y Chechi (It) 9 812; 2, A Demianov (Cro) 9.687, 3, *A Wecker (Ger)* 9.675

ICE HOCKEY

NATIONAL LEAGUE (NHL): Friday: Winnipeg 5 Hartford 2' New Jersey 6 New York Islanders 2; New York Rangers 3 Buffalo 3 (OT); Philadelphia 3 Ottawa 2, Colorado 5 Chicago 3; Pittsburgh 5 Edmonton 4, Tampa Bay 7 San Jose 3 Saturday: Washington *2* Boston 0, Vancouver 3 Detroit 2, Hartford 7 Florida 1, Dallas 5 Toronto 1, New Jersey 4 Ottawa 1; Los Angeles 5 Montreal 4

BRITISH LEAGUE: Premier division: Basingstoke 3 Durham 4; Fife 8 Newcastle 4; Milton Keynes 7 Nottingham 8, Sheffield *14 Humberside 3, Slough 5 Cardiff 8* First division: Blackburn 4 Manchester 17, Bracknell 10 Murrayfield 1; Guildford 14 Peterborough 1; Medway 4 Paisley 8, Solihull 20 Billingham 6, Swindon 7 Dumfries 4, Telford 4 Chelmsford 5

NORDIC SKIING

LAHTI, Finland: World Cup: Men (30km)' 1, J Isometsa (Fin) 1hr 14min 48 4sec; 2, B *Dahle (Nor)* 1'15'12 4, 3, A Prokurorov (Russ) 1.15:26 4, 4, M Botvinov (Russ) 1 15:26.8; 5, F Valbusa (It) 1 15'43 1, 6, A Eide (Nor) 1'15'43.5 World Cup standings: 1, Dahle 1,030pts; 2, V Smirnov (Kaz) 865; 3, Prokurorov 509; 4, Isometsa 491; 5, S Fauner (It) 485; 6, T Alsgaard (Nor) 352 Women (10km): 1, M di Centa (It) 27'38 1; 2, S Belmondo *(It) 27 48 8*; 3, N Gavrilyk (Russ) 28:12 0; 4, L Lasutina (Russ) 28 18.0; 5, M Mikkelplass (Nor) 28.20 8, 6, K Smigun (Est) 28'21 4 World Cup standings: 1, E Vaelbe (Russ) 901, 2, Di Centa 875, 3, L Egorova (Russ) 654, 4, Lasutina 639, equal 5, Belmondo and Gavriluk 613 Combined: 1, B E Vik (Nor) 42mn 6.2sec; 2, KT Apeland (Nor) 45:05.3, 3, H Mannimon (Fin) 45.11.3, 4, A Longa (It) 45:12 4; 5, J Mantila (Fin) 45 36 7; 6 J E Bard (Nor) 45'43.0. World Cup standings: 1, Apeland 1,246; 2, K Ogiwara (Japan) 1,068; 3, Mantila 1,006; 4, Vik 761; 5, S Guillaume (Fr) 692; 6, F B Lundberg (Nor) 612

SCHOOLS SPORT

FOOTBALL: **English Schools Fuji Film Trophy:** Bury 3 West Bromwich 1 **English Schools Goodyear** under-16 Trophy: Millfield, Somerset 1 St Josephs, *Wiltshire 2* Court Moor, Hampshire 0 Larkmead, Oxon 3; Hinde House, South Yorks Lutterworth GS, Leicester 3 Heart of England, West Midlands 0 Lacon Childe Shropshire 1 English Croydon Cup: Brighton 1 Gravesham 4 English Gillis Shield: Semi-final: Maidstone 0 Bexley 1 Southern League: Under-15: East Barks 0 Havant 1, Mid Oxon 1 Vale of White Horse 1 Shaw Cup: Cambridge 2 Ipswich 0, Norwich 3 Lowestoft 2 Finch Trophy: Hackney 4 Brent 0, Islington 1 Harrow 0 Miller Trophy: Swindon 0 East Berks 1 Essex Clark Cup: Havering 1 Harlow 1 Arsenal Trophy: South London 2 Islington *2 Mayes League: Southampton 1 Havant* 1 Kent Cup: Dartford 3 Dover 1 Cotswold League: Mid Oxon 1 Swindon 0. Presidents League: Portsmouth 1 Southampton 5 *Essex Birmingham Trophy: Newham 3* Havering 0 Rangers Trophy: Islington 8 West London 3 West Yorkshire League: Spen Valley 1 Hull 6 Merseyside Cup: St Helens 2 Liverpool 5 Cheshire Senior Cup: Semi-final: Chester 2 Stockport 0 Meason Trophy: Mid Oxon 0 Oxford 3 Hereward Trophy: Under-14: Peterborough 1 South Notts 2 Mercury Trophy: Under-13: Peterborough 0 South Notts 0 English Snickers under-19 trophy: Monkseaton, Northumberland 1 Blackburn College 2 (*aet*) Inter Association: Barrow 2 St Helens 2; Hull 4 Doncaster 0; Leeds 0 Barnsley 0, Nottingham 3 Wellinborough 0, Sefton 6 Allerdale 0 Welsh Glynrodd Shield: Semi-final: *Kirkby Knowsley 2* Alanedd 2 (aet) English Schools Wagon Wheels five-a-side championship finals: Home Counties North at Watford: Winners: Hemel Hempstead Runners up: Borehamwood South at Basingstoke: Winners: Isle of Wight. Runners up: Vale of White Horse West at Bristol: Winners *Bradon Forest, Swindon Runners up:* Hreod Parkway, Swindon South West England at Torbay. Winners: Taunton. Runners up: Torbay Nottinghamshire six-a-side finals: *Semi-finals: Bramsley,* Eastwood 1 Middleton, Nottingham 0 (aet) Carlton Kingston, Bassetlaw 0 Broomhill, Kirkby 0 (aet) Broomhill won 5-4 on penalties. Final: Broomhill 2 *Bramsley* 1 (aet) Other match: Kings Canterbury 1 Colle's School 1

HOCKEY: Epsom 5 Dulwich 0, Hurstpierpoint 1 Charterhouse 0; Perse 3 Felsted 2; Seaford 0 St George's, Weybridge 2; The Leys, Cambridge 3 Gresham's 1

SKIING

HAKUBA, Japan: World Cup: Men: Super giant slalom: 1, P Runggaldier (It) 1min 34.60sec; 2, A Skaardal (Nor) 1'34 88; 3, H Knaus (Austria) 1 35 00; 4, G Mader (Austria) 1'35 32; 5, A Fattori (It) 1:35.36; 6, R Kroell (Austria) 1'35 63; 50, G Bell (GB) 1.38.79. World Cup standings: Overall: 1, L Kjus (Nor) 1,038pts: 2, Mader 875; 3, M von Gruenigen (Switz) 839, 4, Knaus 748; 5, L Alphand (Fr) 714, 6, A Tomba (It) 668 Super giant slalom: 1, Skaardal 280, 2, *Knaus 267*; 3, Kjus 204; 4, R Kroell (Austria) 201, 5, Runggaldier 189; 6. Alphand 182

NARVIK, Norway: World Cup: Women: Giant slalom: 1, D Compagnoni (It) (57 84, 58.36) 1.56.20 2, S Panzanini (It) 58.76, 58.83) 1:57 59, 3, I Kostner (It) (58 54, 58.40) 1 57 94, 4 K Seizinger (Ger) (59 62, 58.44) 1:58.06 5, M Ertl (Ger) (58 11, 59.01) 1 58 12; 6, S Nef (Switz) (58 92, 58 73) 1:58.25 **World Cup standings: Overall:** 1, Seizinger 1,232, 2, Ertl 934, 3, A Wachter (Austria) 927; 4, P Stroel (US) 837; 5, A Merssinger (Austria) 774, 6, I Kostner (It) 765. Giant slalom: 1, Ertl 405, 2, Wachter 326, 3 Seizinger 310, 4, Compagnoni 280, *5. Nef, 266; 6. S Panzanini (It)* 263

SKI JUMPING

LAHTI, Finland: World Cup (115m): 1, M Harada (Japan) (122.5m, 127m) 255.5pts 2, P Peterka (Slovakia) (113 5, 120.5) 240.2; 3, J Sannnen (Fin) (119 5, 110) 224 1, 4, A Malysz (Pol) (123 106) 229 7, 5, J Weissflog (Ger) (114, 113 5) 229 5, 6, M Laitinen (Fin) (108 5, 123) 227 7 **World Cup standings:** 1, A-P Nikkola (Fin) 1,314pts, 2, A Goldberger (Austria) 1,237, 3, J Ahonen (Fin) 935, 4, J Weissflog (Ger) 926; 5, Harada 886; 6, Laitinen 838. Team: 1, *Japan (T Okabe, J Nishikata, H Harada, H Satoh)* 949 9, 2, Germany 829 7, 3 Austria 806 9, 4, Finland 800, 5, Norway 797 1, 6, Slovenia 753 8

SNOOKER

MALTA: European Open: Semi-finals: J Parrott (Eng) bt J Swail (N Ire) 6-5, P Ebdon (Eng) bt A Hicks (Eng) 6-3. Final: Ebdon leads Parrott 5-3

SPEED SKATING

CALGARY: World Cup: Men: 500m: *Friday:* 1, *S Klevchenya (Russ)* 35 80sec, 2, M Hora (Japan) 35.87, 3 H Shimizu (Japan) 36 00 Saturday: 1, Shimizu 35 39secs (world record), 2, Hora 35.57; 3, Klevchenya 35 76 **World cup standings:** 1, Hora 335pts: 2, Klevchenya 284, 3, Y Miyabe (Japan) 275 1,000m: Friday: 1, Hora 1min 11 57sec (world record); 2, A Sondral (Nor) 1 11 94; 3, Miyabe 1 12 41 1,500m: Saturday: 1, H Noake (Japan) 1 50 61 (world record) 2, N Marshall (Can) 1 50 62; 3, Sondral 1 50 74 **World cup standings:** 1, Noake 154; 2, Marshall 147; 3, M Heirsman (Holl) 103, 5,000m: Friday: 1, R Ritsma (Holl) 6'40 84, 2, K Shirahata (Japan) 6 42 84 3, I Postma (Holl) 6 44 08 Women: 500m: Friday: 1, S Zhurova (Russ) 39 20sec, 2, T Okazaki (Japan) 39.24; 3, K Shimazaki (Japan) 39 40 World cup standings: 1, Zhurova 360; 2, Okazaki 281; 3 C LeMay (Can) 268 1,000m: Saturday: 1, C Witty (US) 1'min 19.23sec, 2, O Ravilova (Russ) 1'19.28, 3, Shino Kusunose (Japan) 1 19 56 1,500m: Friday: 1, A Thomas (Holl) 2'01'60; 2, M Uehara (Japan) 2'01 92, 3, G Niemann (Ger) 2'01 98. World cup standings: 1, Niemann 156, 2, Uehara 140, 3, Thomas (Holl) 125 3,000m: Saturday: 1, E Hunyady (Austria) 4 20 87, 2, K Holum (US) 4'22 31, 3, M Descelu (Rom) 4 22 53 **THE HAGUE: Short Track world championships: Men: 500m.** 1, D Fagone (It) 43 08sec; 2, M Vuillermin (It), 3 F Blackburn (Can) 1,000m: 1 D Jaiun (Chinat 1mn 32 03' 2, M Gagnon (Can) 1.32 11. 3, Chae Ji-Hoon (S Kor) 1.32 15 3,000m 1, Chae Ji-Hoon (S Kor) 5 00 56, 2, M Gagnon (Can) 5 01 05 3 Mirko Vuillerman (It) 5 01 08, 4, N Gooch (GB) 5 01 55 5,000m relay: 1, Italy 7 04 99 2 Canada 7 05 14, 3 South Korea 7 07 60 4, Australia, 7'12 53 **Final overall standings** (after 4 events): 1, M Gagnon (Can) 11pts, 2, Chae Ji-Hoon (S Kor) 9, 3, D Fagone (It), L Jiajun (China) and M Vuillerman (It) 5, 6, N Gooch (GB) 4 **Women: 500m:** 1, I Chatrest (Can) 45 65; 2, A Perrault (Can) 3, M Cancini (It), 1,000m: 1, M Cancini (It) 1'39 66 2, Chun Lee-Kyung (S Kor) 1.39.86; 3, I Chatrest (Can) 1 40 00 3,000m: 1, Won Hye-Kyung (S Kor) 5.23 67; 2, Chun Lee-Kyung (S Kor) 5.34.94; 3, D Sun (China) 5 40.71, 5, D Palmer (GB) 5 40 94 5,000m relay: 1 Italy 4.21 50, 2, China 4'22.07; 3, United States 4 27 13 **Final overall standings** (after 4 events) 1, Chun Lee-Kyung (S Kor) 11pts, 2, Won Hye-Kyung (S Kor) 9, 3, I Chatrast (Can) and M Cancini (It) 7, 5, D Sun (China) 4, 6, A Perrault (Can) 3

SWIMMING

CARDIFF: Welsh National long course Championships Men: Freestyle: 400m: M Leutenegger (Switz) 4'02 78 Breaststroke: 200m; A Ayers (Swansea) 2.21.28 Backstroke: 200m: C Jones (Cardiff) 2:07 16 Butterfly: 50m: A Li (Cardiff) 25 60 100m: Li 53 87. **Women: Freestyle:** 50m: D Dietzi (Switz) 27 62 800m: S Hardcastle (Bracknell) 8'46 19. Backstroke: 100m: C Niblett (Dover Life) 1'07 30 Breast-stroke: 100m: D Adams (Rochford) 1'15.27 Butterfly: 200m: H Slatter (Warriors) 2'16 66

TENNIS

MILAN: Men's International tournament: *Semi-finals: G Ivanisevic (Cro) bt G Forget* (Fr) 6-7, 6-3, 7-6, M Rosset (Switz) bt Y Kafelnikov (Russ) 4-6, 6-2, 6-4. Final: Ivanisevic bt Rosset 6-3, 7-6

PHILADELPHIA: Men's tournament. Singles: Quarter-finals: C Woodruff (US) bt M Rios (Chile) 1-6, 6-4, 6-1; M Woodforde (Aus) bt J Stoltenberg (Aus) 7-6, 5-7, 6-2. J Couner (US) bt B Black (Zim) 6-2, 6-4, T Woodbridge (Aus) bt T Carbonell (Spi 6-4, 6-3

LINZ, Austria: Women's tournament: Finals: Singles: S Appelmans (Bel) bt J Haland-Decugis (Fr) 6-2, 6-4

EASTLEIGH: Women's Challenger: Singles: Semi-finals: I Demongeot (Fr) bt V Ruano-Pascual (Sp) 6-3, 6-2; E Wagner (Ger) bt N Dechy (Fr) 1-6, 7-6, 6-4 **Doubles: Final:** V Lake and C Wood (GB) bt L Golarsa (It) and T Krizan (Slovenia) 6-4, 4-6, 6-3

RUGBY UNION

Five nations' championship

Ireland	30	Wales	17

Ireland: Tries: Corkery, Fulcher. Geoghegan, Woods Cons: Mason 2. Pens: *Mason 2 Wales: Tries: Evans 2 Cons:* A Thomas 2 Pen: A Thomas

(at Lansdowne Road)

Scotland	9	England	18

Scotland: Pens: M Dods 3. **England:** Pens: Grayson 6.

(at Murrayfield)

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Scotland	4	3	0	1	60	56	6
France	3	2	0	1	74	41	4
England	3	2	0	1	51	39	4
Ireland	3	1	0	2	50	78	2
Wales	3	0	0	3	46	57	0

RESULTS: France 15 England 12, Ireland 10 Scotland 16, England 21 Wales 15, *Scotland 19 France 14, France 45 Ireland* 10, Wales 14 Scotland 16, Ireland 30 Wales 17, Scotland 9 England 18.

REMAINING MATCHES: Mar 16: England v Ireland, Wales v France

A International

Italy A	19	England A	22

Italy A: Try: Perziano. Con: Scanavacca. Pens: Scanavacca 4 **England A:** Try: Gomersall. Con: King. Pens: King 5.

(at Laquila)

Courage Clubs Championship

Third division

Rosslyn Park	17	Coventry	46

Rosslyn Park: Tries: Roe, Shackel. Cons: Maddock 2 Pen: Maddock. **Coventry:** Tries: Barden, Crofts, Eves 2, Horroben, M Thomas. Cons: M Thomas 5 Pens: M Thomas 2.

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Coventry	13	11	0	2	337	175	22
Richmond	13	10	1	2	352	163	21
Rugby	13	9	1	3	293	192	19
Rotherham	13	7	0	6	256	286	14
Morley	13	6	1	6	222	241	13
Otley	13	5	1	7	194	300	11
Harrogate	13	4	2	7	234	302	10
Reading	13	4	1	8	291	315	9
Rosslyn Park	13	3	2	8	216	277	8
Fylde	13	1	1	11	189	333	3

LEADING SCORERS: 166: R Zong (Harrogate, 3 tries, 11 conversions, 41 penalty goals, 2 dropped goal) 162: J *Gregory (Richmond,* 3t, 24c, 33pg) 150: J Quantrill (Rugby, 3t, 18c, 33pg) 147: J Graychon (Morley, 2t, 13c, 34pg, 3dg). 106: P Rutledge (Otley, 1t, 5c, 31pg) 101: *K Plant (Rotherham; 10c 23pg, 4dg).* 89: S Gough (Fylde; 2t, 8c, 21pg). 84: C Quick (Coventry; 1t, 8c, 21pg). 82: P Belshaw (Reading, 1t, 10c, 19pg) Tries: 8: E Saunders (Rugby). 7: *A Boyd (Richmond),* C Phillips (Reading) 6: B Shepherd (Coventry) 5. J Horroben (Coventry).

CIS under-21 divisional championship

London and SE	9	North	30

(at Imber Court)

South West	10	Midlands	33

(at Bridgwater)

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
North	2	2	0	0	56	28	4
Midlands	2	1	0	1	52	36	2
South West	2	1	0	1	28	48	2
London and SE	2	0	0	2	24	48	0

Swalec Cup

Sixth round

Caerphilly	29	S Wales Police	13

Caerphilly: Tries: P Phillips 2, D Phillips. Con: Conway. Pens: Conway 4. **South Wales Police:** Try: Knight. Con: S Pritchard. Pens: S Prichard 2

Tennents Championship Regional League

East two

Grangemouth	13	Heriot's FP	12

Club matches

Broughton Park	16	Sedgley Park	18
Camberley	17	Reading	71
Cambridge Univ	19	Blackheath	52
London Irish	14	Saracens	39
London Welsh	19	Moseley	3
Preston	13	Fylde	11
Richmond	31	Harlequins	36
Sandal	33	Stockton	12
Sheffield	26	Leeds	8
Watsonians	24	London Scottish	45
West Hartlepool	34	Wakefield	20
Wasps	60	Dick (Holl)	28

CANCELLED: Aspatria v Vale of Lune; Bradford and Bingley v Otley; Liverpool St Helens v Tynedale; Orrell v Newcastle; Redruth v Camborne

Women's home nations' championship

Ireland	6	Wales	22

Ireland: Pens: Shirves 2. **Wales:** Tries: Rickard 2, Evans, Dent. Con: Bennett.

(at Blackrock Coll)

Scotland	8	England	12

Scotland: Try: Kenn

Capitalisation, week's change

TRADING PERIOD: Settlement takes place five business days after the day of trade. Changes are calculated on the previous day's close, but adjustments are made when a stock is ex-dividend. Changes, yields and price/earnings ratios are based on middle prices.

ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES

Mkt cap (million)	Company	Price (p)	Wkly +/-	Yld %	P/E
5,294.00	Allied Domecq	511	– 9	5.8	18.5
395.29	Bulmer (HP)	555	+ 2	2.8	17.5
71.20	Burn Stewart	1120	+ 1	5.2	25.8
9,159.90	Bristol Mvrs	737	– 19½	4.3	18.8
9,259.30	Bskeweys	459	+ 13	3.8	14.2
476.90	Highland Distl	356	+ 4	2.8	16.2
191.40	Macallan-Glen	1162	+ 2	7.0	36.1
87.00	Macalin Mtn 'A'	1035	– 5	3.1	17.9
611.20	Matthew Clark	970	+ 3	5.1	10
11.20	Morvlem W	103	– 5	2.4	
9,700.60	SA Breweries	2275	– 112½	1.5	32.2

BANKS

Mkt cap (million)	Company	Price (p)	Wkly +/-	Yld %	P/E
9,428.90	ABN-AMRO	3199½	+212½	4.1	11.7
7,675.00	Abbey Nil	581	– 16	4.8	10.8
7,314.90	Allied Irish	344	– 13	4.2	
4,572.00	Aus New Z	329	+ 19	5.0	
16,363.90	Bank Amercart	4675	+ 82½		
3,268.70	Bank Scotland	578	+ 9½	2.8	12.3
12,379.10	Barclays	782	– 12	4.2	8.8
2,197.80	Bk of Ireland	457		3.2	9.2
152.20	Cater Allen	467	– 1	8.0	7.7
24,712.30	Citicorp	5106½	+ 69½		
476.30	Close Bros	902	+ 27	2.8	17.3
5,368.40	Commercial	6146½	+ 259½	3.6	
38,342.30	Dal Ichi Kun Y	1228½	+ 19½	0.4	
15,619.30	Deutsche Bk	3284½	+ 3½	2.2	
167.80	Espirito Santo	780½	+ 6½	4.6	10.4
38,019.00	Fuji Bank Y	1312½	+ 71½	0.4	
204.00	Gerrard Nat	418		6.7	13.5
374.80	Hambros	712	+ 8	4.4	
9,322.40	HSBC	1084	+ 12	3.8	12.3
19,632.80	HSBC Hlr.	1081	+ 9	3.9	12.0
337.70	Irish Perm	405	– 3	3.2	
23.90	Joseph (L)	430		5.2	15.5
40.90	King Shaxson	155		7.3	12.5
16,704.20	Lloyds TSBY	329½	+ 14½	3.0	17.7
9,139.40	Nat Aust Bk	629	+ 29	6.6	8.5
12,380.00	Nat Westr	693	– 1	4.6	9.7
29.00	Rea Brothers	180		3.1	24.0
4,506.10	Rpl Bk Scot	1657	– 19	3.6	12.6
1,917.70	Schroders	1270	– 3	1.4	18.7
439.10	Schroders N/V	998		1.8	14.2
217.10	Singer & Fried	110		4.2	11.4
6,798.00	Standd Chart	640	+ 38	2.2	13.8
27.10	Union	102	+ 3	3.7	
8,283.60	Wells Fargo	2361½	+ 31½	1.8	
5,916.00	Westpac	311½	+ 17½	4.5	
26.10	Wemhstr	304	+ 3	4.8	17.4

BREWERIES, PUBS & REST

Mkt cap (million)	Company	Price (p)	Wkly +/-	Yld %	P/E
5.04	Abdn Sth Hlf	42			9.1
93.80	Ascot Hldg	340	– 14		8.7
6,706.80	Bass	763	+ 22	3.7	17.6
584.90	Beddington	481		2.4	24.7
15.10	Bk for the Brit	53	– 2	3.3	16.5
36.40	Buttoned Bw	175		3.9	16.9
181.70	City Centre Rest	94		3.7	18.2
1,536.20	Compass Grp	498	– 8	1.9	21.5
50.00	Cuddybe P 'A'cc	266	– 10	2.2	18.7
95.50	Falk Sn A &S	173	+ 11	3.3	18.7
1,674.60	Grosvenor Grp	573½	– 10	3.1	15.6
269.20	Greene King	635		2.8	15.6
34.90	Grosvenor Invst	243		2.8	25.8
40.60	Groupe Chez Ger	218	– 4	1.4	15.9
65.40	Hardy Hanrott	327		3.9	13.2
3.95	Heamtree	155			4.8
96.30	Holt 1	3108		2.2	16.6
452.40	Ladbroke	326	+ 1	2.7	16.8
316.30	Marston Thmp	345	+ 1	2.6	16.2
172.30	Morland	679	+ 1	3.3	17.6
32.60	My Kinda Town	130	+ 5	2.9	13.7
7.70	Paramount	6		4.6	9.5
93.90	Pelican Gp	127	+ 3	1.6	21.4
150.60	PizzaExpress	268	– ½	1.1	27.9
27.50	Ramsdens (Hl)	312		2.0	
143.00	Regent Invst	883	+ 13½	1.1	27.7
4,045.80	Scott & Mnsr	660		3.5	17.8
97.60	Tom Cobleigh	235	+ 5	1.4	38.2
395.10	Vaux Group	381	+ 8	4.5	14.5
764.30	Wetherspoon JD	722	+ 5	1.4	29.3
3,167.50	Whitbread	1168	+ 8	2.4	17.8
430.80	Wolvehmpton D	629	+ 8	3.0	
128.80	Yates Bros	326	– 2	1.2	29.0
12.80	Young A	440		4.3	17.9

BUILDING & CONSTRUCT

Mkt cap (million)	Company	Price (p)	Wkly +/-	Yld %	P/E
4.16	AAF Inds	18			
52.30	Abbey	135		4.9	8.6
78.90	Allen	338	+ 3	3.1	17.8
200.90	Amec	958	+ 1	3.8	20.9
35.20	Andrews, Sykes	245	+ 1		
225.30	Ashtead A	163	– 2	2.0	14.0
13.10	Averdale	30	+ 2½	13.8	4.8
2.57	Bailey (Ben) Con	34½		5.4	5.9
17.60	Barron	36	– 2	1.0	
472.60	Barratt Devs	256	+ 15	3.7	16.0
502.60	Bazer Homes	179	+ 11	4.1	12.9
271.70	Bellway	275	+ 4	3.5	13.2
8.12	Bellhanch	18			
536.00	Berkeley Gp	566	+ 6	1.8	17.4
28.70	Bett Bros	158		4.3	5.7
53.30	Bost (Henry)	197	+ 16	4.6	9.2
22.60	Brandon Hire	104		2.7	18.5
5.02	Britannia Gp	52	–	9.1	4.3
4.48	Br Bldg & Eng	40	+ 4		
313.60	Brunt!	112	+ 5½	5.6	13.6
40.90	CALA	95	– 1	4.2	9.2
2.20	Campbell & Arm	16			12.7
4.80	Carter T	39	– 5	13.0	14.0
38.30	Costain	74	+ 1		
49.70	Countrywide	66		5.5	
69.90	Crest Nicholson	770½	+ 2½	3.6	
13.00	Cussons	65		7.5	6.4
14.50	Dev Group	148	– 5	7.6	6.0
14.20	Galliford	16	+ 1	7.8	12.5
74.50	Gleeson (M.J)	738	+ 3	2.5	14.0
4.31	Green (Hmph)	56		11.4	24.9
80.50	Hardcck Euro	306	– 1½	13.2	5.7
390.40	Hawdn-Stavel	141	+ 2	2.5	15.0
56.30	Higgs & Hill	86		3.7	73.2
5.02	Howard Hdgs	19		5.3	17.3
10.90	Jarvis	359½	+	1.4	
80.10	Keller	147½	+ 1	3.4	13.9
122.10	Laing (J)	366	+ 2	4.2	32.9
40.40	Laing (J) 4% Cv Pf	100½	+ 2½	8.0	
5.77	Lovell (Y.J)	14½			
49.50	Maunders (J)	198		3.6	10.6
59.50	McAlpine (A)	344		2.9	16.8
84.90	McCarthy & S	86	– 2	2.9	11.9
31.50	Morgan Sndall	99	+ 1	3.5	
83.50	Morrison Cons	125		4.3	12.2
117.00	Mowlem (J)	67		3.7	33.4
25.50	Persimmon A	386	+ 6	1.6	
22.90	Pochin	110	+ 10	1.8	13.5
78.90	Prowting	101	+ 2	4.7	13.5
26.30	Rame Ind	14	– ½	4.5	
330.00	Redlnd	149	+ 9	2.6	13.8
5.71	Secure Petra	56	– 9	2.2	10.6
33.90	Sheriff Hdgsc	303	– 6	2.9	11.1
4.80	Shanco	73	– 1	6.8	11.2
117.90	Speedex	365	+ 1	0.9	33.3
37.40	Tay Homes	128	+ 1	3.9	9.8
582.80	Taylor Woodrw	151	+ 5	3.3	26.8
143.60	Tilbury Dougls	425	– 3	8.7	17.5
7.07	Trencherwood C	81	– ½		6.4
8.13	Try Group	114	+ ½	6.3	16.5
43.00	Vibroplant	92	+ 1	5.4	7.0
53.50	Wainhomes	86	+ 2	6.5	8.0
22.60	Ward Hldgs	43	– 1	4.4	
171.80	Westbury	152	+ 6	3.8	14.2
29.50	Wiggins	6			41.3
346.10	Wilson (C)	173	+ 3	3.2	11.8
367.50	Wilson Bowdn	353	+ 8	3.2	14.3
521.30	Wimpey G	144	+ 5	4.9	

BUILDING MATERIALS

Mkt cap (million)	Company	Price (p)	Wkly +/-	Yld %	P/E
9.06	Allnaghton	12½	– ½		
1,610.00	BPB Ind	319		3.6	14.8
41.00	Baggeridge Brk	101		3.9	13.3
194.80	Bardon	35	– ½	7.1	17.1
12.30	Blackwy	53	– 2	1.0	
2,580.70	Blue Circle	357		4.2	16.0
23.30	Braedon PLC	82	+ 2	7.4	11.3
32.10	Br Dredging	126		5.6	16.5
2,638.10	CRH	554	+ 27	1.9	20.8
1.50	Castlerad Rty	33		9.0	17.8
77.90	Cape	144		9.5	11.2
1,283.10	Caradon	214	+ 7	5.5	11.3
200.70	Caradon pf	111½		8.1	
2.15	Chatham Gp	25	+ 2	10.0	
2.61	Carson (J&J)	158½		7.6	13.1
9.66	Dyson 'A'1	70½	– ½	7.1	5.8
44.50	Epwin	206	– 3	5.4	10.9
22.00	Fibre	172	– 3		
1.50	Gibbs & Dandy	93		4.3	
397.60	Graham Cp	391	– 2	3.4	17.6
122.00	Halstead (J)	480		2.7	17.6
429.30	Hepworth	269	– 3	6.2	13.8
3.35	Howkstone	24	– ½	8.7	7.5
2.17	Hymnel Wm	225	+ ½	2.2	12.5
208.80	Ibstock	75	+ ½	2.9	12.4
40.40	Jobnson	378	+ 3	3.5	8.8
23.90	Lilleshall	84	+ 1	7.5	
419.90	Marley	125	+ 3	4.8	11.0
198.60	Marshalls	160		3.9	11.9
524.10	Meyer Int	447	+ 2	3.5	15.7
152.20	Newman Tnks	119	+ 2	7.2	10.7
148.60	Norcros	93			
6.30	Nthmbra Timbr	15			18.7
2,148.60	Pilkington	214	– 2	3.0	17.0
300.40	Polypipe	196	– 2	3.8	17.7
2,571.80	RMC Gp	1057	+ 23	2.7	14.1
2,557.20	Redland	488	+ 13	4.1	16.5
17.40	Rmtrd	92	– 7	5.5	10.2
62.30	Rsbrdcld	129	+ 6	5.9	10.4
220.10	Ragby Group	112½	–	4.0	14.5
279.10	Ransell (A)	158		2.6	17.1
150.80	Sag	224	– 1	3.5	12.4
4.51	Synp	4			
36.60	Stanlr & Fetner	170		3.7	13.5
85.10	Sprng Ram	18½	+ ½	3.7	13.3
1,110.40	Tarmac	139	– 1	5.8	12.5
16.10	Tilon	146		4.0	13.5
394.50	Travis Perkins	385	+ 20	2.9	16.0
3.16	Tudor	29		3.2	17.2
1.29	Waterhouse C	50			
2,534.40	Wellseley	470	– 6	2.6	15.8

CHEMICALS

Mkt cap (million)	Company	Price (p)	Wkly +/-	Yld %	P/E
530.40	Allnaght S Wt	166	+ 2	4.5	17.5
182.50	Bristol Colldnl	130	– 3	3.5	19.9
32.60	Amtrer Ind	208		3.4	13.6
45.60	Associtny Gp	75	– 2	2.2	21.6
9,535.30	BASF DM	2162½	+ 52½	2.7	
4,457.40	BOC	931	+ 10	3.6	12.3
452.70	BTP	284		4.7	17.1
13,509.60	Bayer DM50	2198½	+ 49½	2.9	
54.10	Brent Chems	80		5.0	21.9
462.40	Br Vita	336	– 3	4.8	13.1
55.80	Cumning (Wl)	195	+ 1	5.0	12.5
1,761.80	Courtaulds	436	– 3	6.5	19.9
435.50	Croda	326	– 3	3.5	14.2
31.80	Dechlor	219	+ 1	3.3	14.3
292.30	Elkn & Everard	264	– 2	4.1	14.1
73.50	Exmr Colour	86	– 2	2.8	21.0
19.80	Gibson	191	– 3	4.7	13.7
142.80	Hickson	80	– 4	6.5	7.6
12,090.50	Hoechst	12394½	+ 293½	2.6	
120.40	Holiday Chem	115		5.4	8.2
6,575.50	ICI	987	– 25	4.2	13.2
426.80	Inspec	367	+ 32	1.6	25.6
430.40	Rotch	152	– 2	4.7	13.9
1,223.20	Laporte	658	+ 8	4.4	13.5
32.60	MTM	88	– 1	2.3	15.9
137.90	Munders	321	– 3	4.4	14.5
7.47	Metrotect	31		6.0	
101.80	Porvair	414	+ 1	1.6	
571.50	Scapa	339		4.7	17.8
49.70	Sutcliffe Speak	38	+ 1	1.8	48.6
8,627.50	Takeda Chem	9650½	– 81½	0.9	13.5
18.05	Wtr-Haltese R	1048	– 10	2.6	17.8
119.10	Yorks Chem	260	+ 14	4.1	
337.30	Yule Catto	333	+ 4	2.8	17.6

DISTRIBUTORS

Mkt cap (million)	Company	Price (p)	Wkly +/-	Yld %	P/E
32.00	ASB Lrcs	97	+ 1	5.6	10.0
19.50	Adam & Harvey	93		6.3	6.1
5.64	Alexander-J	14	– 1	2.7	
70.60	Applevare	106	– 1	7.1	11.4
9.19	Ass Br Eng	31½		9.1	
150.70	BSS Group	573	+ 13	4.3	16.4
49.30	Bandt	35			
6.37	Bk'ing Powert	18	– ½	8.7	12.9
1.35	Bogod 'A'	26		3.5	8.6

DIVERSIFIED INDUSTRIALS

Mkt cap (million)	Company	Price (p)	Wkly +/-	Yld %	P/E
212.00	Bramner	467	+ 4½	3.6	18.0
5.78	Bridgend Gp	21	+ 1½	12	
19.00	Bett Fitings	88		5.6	12.1
8.58	Calgnc	260	+ 15	5.5	17.9
28.50	Carentale	104	– ½	3.3	7.1
3.82	Cardnl Mk	68	– 5	6.9	
33.30	Charles Sidney	88	+ 1	5.2	25.8
24.50	Cook (DC)	237	– 1½	3.7	8.5
530.70	Cowie	376	+ 18	4.0	12.1
29.80	Dag Motors	123		7.3	10.2
35.70	Dawnays B	146	+ 3	2.5	13.2
236.50	Dialoma	429		4.3	13.7
1,457.20	Electrocomponts	344		2.2	23.3
177.00	Eurodis Elec	302	+ 3	1.9	26.0
46.10	Eurodollar	94	– 1	10.4	9.7
44.00	European Mk	82		7.9	7.0
98.90	Evans Hanshaw	208	– 2	6.3	9.5
849.00	Farnell ElectA	622	– 3	2.0	18.1
9.17	Fife Indnse	63		8.4	10.3
74.20	Gardner	47½	– ½	4.8	
14.00	Glenchemton	46½	+ ½	0.8	
8.10	Gowrings	66		3.2	14.6
1,373.10	Hanscpe	280	+ 8	2.8	23.6
4.64	Jacks (Wm)	43		3.2	9.2
342.70	Kwik-Fit	198	+ 7	2.9	18.8
31.40	Serbi-Rex	200	+ 21	0.9	34.6
3,487.60	Slatter)	813	+ 1	1.9	22.5
116.90	Simon Eng	74		3.8	
182.30	Sir Hundred	189		1.5	13.6
2,074.70	Smiths Ind	697	+ 13	2.8	21.8
506.30	Spirax-Sarco	645	+ 6	2.3	20.3
93.60	Sterling Ind	308	+ 1	3.2	14.9
2,288.90	TI	497	+ 9	3.2	22.8
9.66	Thorley (EH)	95		7.4	14.0
88.30	TransTec	85	+ 5	2.1	
184.80	Triplex Lloyd	160	+ 5	5.5	11.9
47.90	Uniform Ind	143		4.8	11.9
33.60	Utd Isnts	15		3.1	12.0
19.90	Vercon	13½			
950.80	Vickers	205	– 2	2.4	22.9
16.00	Villers Grp	13½			
348.10	Vitec	215	+ 9	1.6	18.3
362.90	Vosper Thorny	819	– 57	3.3	14.9
206.20	Wagon Ind	338	+ 9	6.0	11.5
455.80	Weir	248	+ 16	3.6	29.8
54.30	Wellington Hdg	220	– 2	3.6	17.6
710.50	Wellmon	467½	– ½	4.3	10.6
86.50	Whatman	323	+ 3	3.9	12.0
9.66	Whitnejr	80	+ 2½	5.4	9.3

ELECTRICITY

Mkt cap (million)	Company	Price (p)	Wkly +/-	Yld %	P/E
1,452.30	East Midlands	732	– 4	6.0	8.6
1,292.70	London Elect	758	+ 12	6.0	8.6
1,508.50	Midlands Elect	802	+ 28	5.8	10.2
1,305.90	National Grid	1052½	+ 1	6.1	8.8
3,476.40	Redland Powr	1457½	– 3½	4.3	9.9
6,256.20	Natl Power P/P	362	– 1	4.8	9.2
847.90	Northern Elec	695	+ 6	6.5	8.2
608.50	Nthrn Ireland	434	+ 2½	4.7	9.2
1,945.80	PowerGen	742	+ 7	3.9	10.0
3,974.90	PowerGen (P/P)	404	+ 3½	3.9	11.8
1,281.60	Hydro-Elect	3337½	– 5½	5.4	9.2
3,433.10	Scottish Power†	366	– 7	4.9	10.6
1,310.40	Seebourd	534		3.4	11.5
789.80	Sth Wales	650		4.5	8.8
2,177.70	Southern Elect	854	+ 17	4.9	10.0
1,222.60	Yorkshire Elect	793½	+ 50½	5.8	8.3

ELECTRONIC & ELECT

Mkt cap (million)	Company	Price (p)	Wkly +/-	Yld %	P/E
107.10	Acal	565	+ 1	1.7	20.2
201.60	Acorn Comp	224	– 16		
116.60	Admiral	933	+ 3	1.3	
254.20	Amstrad	218		1.9	13.5
29.00	Anter	39		1.9	13.5
370.30	Aotec	120	+ 2½	1.4	18.6
146.60	Aotm	545	+ 2	0.8	24.3
1,083.90	BICC	308	+ 6	5.3	
230.20	Bales Hunterf	368	+ 6	3.5	21.2
140.80	Bllck	458		3.6	16.3
788.00	Bowthorpe	497	+ 1	2.9	18.6
5.75	Burgin (JF) 'A'	22½	– ½	2.2	8.8
23.20	CMI Microsy	122		6.1	13.0
27.40	Channel Hldgs	50	– 1	5.5	10.0
64.80	Chloride	264½	+ ½	1.6	34.5
14.90	Clayhithe	73	+ 3	5.4	12.4
111.40	Cray Elect	47	+ 4	4.7	
103.50	Cstchley	700	+ 4	1.7	24.2
1,542.60	Dscrete Sls Sys	708	+ 4	1.4	30.1
604.40	Delta	404	+ 16	4.9	13.9
119.90	Dominat	448		2.8	
97.80	Downing Mills	69½	+ ½	5.2	17.4
187.20	Druck	2925	– 113	0.6	31.4
15,299.80	Electrolux 'B'	4255½	+ 59½	3.5	
39.20	Elcess	35½		0.3	
12,569.70	Ericsson 'B'	1437½	– 49½	1.2	
37.50	Eurocopy	77	– 3	3.8	13.3
547.50	Eurotherm†	609	+ 13	1.5	24.3
194.50	Filtronic Comp	460	+ 17	0.6	18.9
184.00	Filtronic Domtr	438	+ 10	0.2	67.8
98.80	Forward Gp	725	+ 10	1.2	31.2
34.50	Forward Tech	100	+ 9	3.1	13.9
10,224.80	GEC	371	+ 9½	3.9	17.3
77.50	Gresley	120	+ 1	3.0	11.0
1,521.60	Gnshil	1054½	– ½	3.0	21.9
107.10	McLean Rescol	175	+ 3	4.6	16.6
395.60	Powell Dullyn	460	+ 17	6.6	18.9
33.20	Rogers	142	+ 10	7.3	9.8
3,656.50	Sthn Derby	1723	+ 2	3.7	15.8
228.70	Stewkly	198		3.5	13.6
184.30	Suter	137		3.7	10.5
472.60	TT Group	295		2.4	16.6
3,169.30	Tandbrrt	367	– 1½	4.2	14.7
44.50	Tetragon H	44½	+ 6½		
57.40	Unidare	296		7.7	
3,169.30	Tandbrrt	367	– 1½	4.2	14.7
44.50	Tetragon H	44½	+ 6½		
57.40	Unidare	296		7.7	
236.00	Rewshaw	398	+ 4	2.1	24.3
2.50	Rodeca	1¼			
154.30	Rodcera	275	+ 4	2.4	13.6
37.20	Semenor	319		2.8	21.5
51.20	Silvermarc	80	– 1	1.7	21.3
2.83	Soundtrac D	28	– 3	4.1	
4,382.10	TDK	3267½	+ 43½	1.0	
10.40	TDS Cmputr	10	+ 2½		
21.00	TGI	97	– 1	3.7	11.5
364.00	TLG	142	– 8	2.1	15.3
16.60	Tadpole Tech	63	– 3	3.1	
103.60	Tandbrrt	113	– 3	1.3	16.1
270.40	Tckpac	853	+ 76	0.8	47.7
30.60	Thorpe PW	337	+ 4	2.1	14.4
2.42	Total Systems	24	+ 4		34.9
117.90	Tunstall	359	+ 17	1.5	16.1
329.00	Ultech†	542	+ 16	1.8	17.5
35.60	Vertty	45	– 1	1.3	18.5
147.30	Vero	244	– 3	2.6	26.9
112.60	Vokes	408	+ 14	6.0	14.5
4.50	Wakebourne	20			10.8
41.70	Wilkinson	147	– 2	4.0	34.4

ENGINEERING

Mkt cap (million)	Company	Price (p)	Wkly +/-	Yld %	P/E
40.90	ABM	260	– 2	3.8	6.7
239.80	AFV	81	– 1	4.8	11.0
64.10	AGW	77	– 3	10.2	37
112.40	Abtrsec	438		2.2	18.9
87.80	Alvis	157	+ 19	1.6	15.7
67.70	Ash & Lacy	188	+ 5	4.4	12.6
98.90	Alex Eqstp	643		4.3	22.5
13.30	Aynsbnt Metal	123	+ 2	5.2	7.6
1,266.50	BBA	306	+ 7	2.1	
98.60	BI Group	150		3.6	15.4
70.70	BSA	148		6.2	14.3
242.20	Babcock	143	+ 8	2.3	
3.85	Bailey (CH)	7	– ½		
174.90	Bayles (Charles)	113	– 1	2.4	19.6
11.60	Beaufort	36		2.2	6.1
7.51	Bellcore Group	5½	– ½	2.3	
1.52	Billam	55		7.0	
279.30	Bodycote	479	+ 22	1.6	24.4
1.44	Booth Inds	36	– 3		
11.10	Brockhsr†	15		1.9	12.8
75.30	Bndsn	102	– 6	5.1	12.8
1,852.40	Br Aerospace	897	+ 25	1.8	21.2
3,724.20	Br Steel	1839½	+ 5	5.8	5.3
1.25	Bronx Engnrng	12½		2.0	
3,852.40	Brunel	311½		2.6	12.3
127.60	Bullough	105	+ 1	7.2	
12.60	Burnfield	95		4.0	13.8
168.70	Cncle Engt	384		4.2	15.5
75.00	Cadlings	176	+ 1	2.5	14.2
10.30	Chamblain Hld	149		6.5	8.4
93.30	Chemring	398	+ 18	3.5	18.2
16.40	Clyde Blowers	39½		3.7	45.1
518.20	Cobham	369½	+ 25½	1.9	34.2
6.16	Coben (A)	645		1.2	6.0
93.50	Concentric	170	+ 4	4.9	11.9
218.00	Cookson	218		4.7	9.0
131.50	Coral (Wm)	291	– 3	4.4	13.2
198.70	Cse	385		4.2	14.8
38.90	Elliott (B)	104		3.2	11.0
60.10	Expamet†	85	– 1½	1.8	
918.20	FKI	163	+ 2	3.7	15.3
1.74	Ferrum	7	+ ½		
30.50	Firth Hldgs	46	+ 1		25.8
88.10	Firth Rosbn	69½		2.8	25.9
47.70	GD Inc	219	+ 3	3.4	12.8
6.90	Garton Eng	117		4.1	9.8
817.10	Gyrwood	335	– 9	4.7	13.5
54.90	Graystone	147½	+ ½	6.5	10.1
86.90	Haden Mclln	29		3.5	20.7
14.50	Hattlegh	391	– 2	2.6	13.7
80.60	Holt Eng	191	– 2	4.2	10
447.10	Hulons	167½	– 1½	1.7	21.2
52.20	Hmpson Ind	54	+ 1	5.1	12.5
4.20	Hay (Hanson)	14			
5.63	Headway	35			31.8
123.50	Hall & Smith	129	+ 2	6.4	
29.70	Hopkinsons	38	– 1	4.3	
16.80	How Gp	31		6.0	
201.10	Hunden	208		5.1	8.9
219.00	Hunting	335	+ 10	3.6	20.9
1,144.90	IMI	1134	+ 2	4.0	10.1
1,238.30	Johnson Matth	573	– 39	3.0	16.7
58.50	Jones, Shipman	51	– 2		10.6
585.

RESULTS AND STATISTICS

TODAY

Interims: Close Brothers, Cornwell Parker, Hays, JD Wetherspoon.
Finals: ADT, Avonmore Foods, BBA Group, Beta Global Emerging Markets, British Polythene, Cementone, EFT Group, Enso-Gutzelt, Fidelity European Values, General Cable, *Intrum Justitia*, Mackie Intl, Perkins Group, Relyon Group, Smith & Nephew.
AGMs: AG Barr, Eurocopy, Haemocell, Treatt, United Breweries,
EGMs: Edinburgh Fund Managers, Excalibur Group, United Breweries
Econ stats: Official reserves and M0 (February).

TOMORROW

Interims: Beacon IT, British Biotech (Q3), European Leisure, Finelist Group, Linx Printing Group, Raine.
Finals: Bluebird Toys, BSM Group, Burnfield, CRH, De Beers Consolidated Mines, Independent Insurance, Inspec Group, Kerry Group, Metal Bulletin, Pacer Systems, Pegasus Group, Pendragon, Perpetual UK Smaller Companies, Scottish TV, Singapore Para Rubber, SR Pan-European, Transport Development Group, WSP Group.
AGMs: Kelsey Inds. **EGMs:** Cons. Coal.
Econ stats: Advance energy (Nov-Jan).

WEDNESDAY

Interims: Merivale Moore.
Finals: BWD Securities, Cadbury Schweppes, Candover Investments, Cape, Central European Growth, Glaxo Wellcome, Israel Fund, Ockham Holdings, PTS Group, Smaller Companies Inv Trust, Stat-Plus Group, Strong & Fisher, T&N, Vickers, Woodchester Invs, Wyevale Garden Centres.
AGMs: Coda Group, Dawson Holdings, Royal Bank of Canada.
EGMs: Fleming Intl High.
Econ stats: Housing starts (Jan).

THURSDAY

Interims: Conrad, Galliford, A&J Mucklow, Perpetual Japanese Inv Trust, Renishaw.
Finals: Arjo Wiggins Appleton, T Clarke, Conister Trust, Cookson Group, Cortworth, Ericsson, Fairway Group, Gibbs & Dandy, GKN, Group Development Capital Trust, Hillsdown Holdings, IMI, Kode International, Ladbroke Group, Lloyds Smaller Companies, Microvitec, Moorepay Group, More O'Ferrall, North Midland Construction, Ocean Group, Rolls-Royce, RTZ Corp, Sanderson Bramall Motor Group, Sun Alliance, Telewest, Virtuality Group, Zeneca Group.
AGMs: Amer Group, Brooke Tool Eng., Countryside Props., First Philippine Trust, Hawtin, ML Laboratories, Premier Land, Stora
Econ stats: Monthly monetary meeting between Chancellor and Governor of the Bank, CBI dist. trades survey (Feb).

FRIDAY

Interims: Waterman Partnership.
Finals: Anglo Pacific Resources, Greggs, Hambro Countrywide, Latin American IT, Litho Supplies, Mallett, Mercury Grosvenor Trust, Paribas French Inv Trust.
Econ stats: Const. output (Q4).

COMPANIES — PHILIP PANGALOS



City ready for Glaxo profits cocktail

GLAXO WELLCOME: Sir Richard Sykes, chief executive of the world's biggest pharmaceutical group, should report an impressive set of results on Wednesday, as Glaxo Wellcome mixes a drugs cocktail that pleases the City.

Stewart Adkins, of Lehman Brothers, the American securities house, has pencilled in annual profits before tax and exceptional items of £2.56 billion (£2.18 billion). A dividend of 31p is predicted. Market forecasts range from £2.4 billion to £2.88 billion.

The results will be overshadowed by the 1995 merger that created the world's biggest drugs firm after the £9.4 billion takeover of Wellcome. The numbers will show 18-month and one-year figures owing to the enlarged group changing its year end to December 31. The firm intends to take a one-off charge of £1.2 billion to account for the merger.

Sales of Zantac, the blockbuster anti-ulcer drug, slowed by 3 per cent in the first half, and all eyes will be on the speed of the slowdown since, with Lehman predicting a 7 per cent fall in the second half, which would result in an overall drop in Zantac sales of about 4 per cent, to about $3.5 billion. Lehman says that attention will focus on how new drugs are faring and whether they can make up for the decline in sales of Zantac, which faces the loss of its US patent in 1997.

SMITH & NEPHEW: UBS is looking for today's final pre-tax profits from the Elastoplast healthcare group to rise to £181 million (£172.2 million), with a dividend of 5.65p (5.28p) predicted. Market forecasts range from £167 million to £183 million. Underlying sales growth is thought to have continued at about 8 per cent, though margins may have been squeezed by higher packaging and raw material costs.

CADBURY SCHWEPPES: The soft drinks and confectionery group should report stronger full-year profits on Wednesday as a maiden contribution from Dr Pepper/Seven Up, America's third-largest soft drinks group, acquired for $1.7 billion last year, and the benefits to soft drinks sales of a long, hot summer offset the adverse effects of the hot weather on melting confectionery sales. Henderson Crosthwaite is looking for final pre-tax profits to rise to £525 million (£479 million). Market forecasts range from £518 million to £550 million. A dividend of 16p to 17p (15.6p) is forecast.

The group will also benefit from its investment in Camelot, the operator of the National Lottery. However, the devaluation of the Mexican peso and a sharp downturn in the economy is expected to lead to a big fall in Mexican profits. A restructuring charge of up to £40 million is forecast for Dr Pepper.

ROLLS-ROYCE: An increase in military engine deliveries and a turnaround in the industrial and marine gas turbine business should help Rolls-Royce to a solid advance in full-year profits on Thursday. NatWest Securities is looking for pre-tax profits to climb to £145 million (£101 million), though a maintained dividend of 5p is predicted. Market forecasts range from £132 million to £148 million. The results will be boosted by heavy cost-cutting in the past three years, an increased contribution from Allison, the US aero-engines group acquired last year, and a fall in development spending now the big new Trent powerplant is in the air. Attention will focus on current trading and prospects after the group's recent string of new orders.

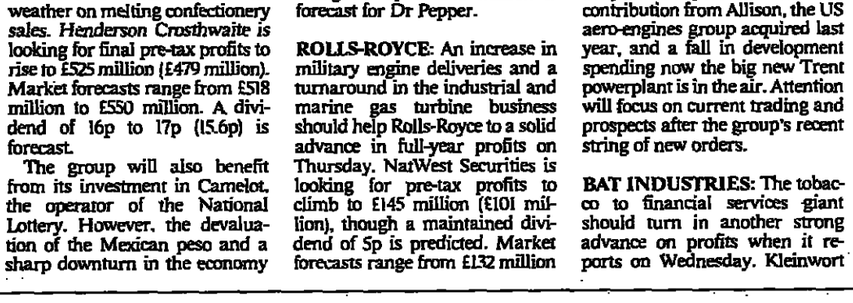
BAT INDUSTRIES: The tobacco to financial services giant should turn in another strong advance on profits when it reports on Wednesday. Kleinwort Benson expects final pre-tax profits to rise to £2.3 billion (£1.75 billion), with market forecasts ranging from £2.25 billion to £2.41 billion. A dividend of 24p (21.9p) is expected.

GKN: A strong performance from Westland helicopters should help the defence to car parts giant to please the market with final pre-tax profits of £315 million (£200 million), according to ABN Amro Hoare Govett. Market forecasts range from £290 million to £324 million.

VICKERS: A solid performance from the Rolls-Royce luxury car division should combine with strong growth in the defence division to help Vickers to power to final pre-tax profits of £70 million to £77 million (£44.8 million). Dividend forecasts range from 6p to 6.6p (4.75p). Apart from current trading and prospects, analysts await news after speculation that the recent deal to provide BMW engines for Rolls-Royce cars could lead to the German carmaker moving to take an equity stake in either Vickers itself or Rolls-Royce.

ZENECA: The drugs group, which plans to separate its loss-making seeds business, is expected to announce a big jump in full-year earnings when it reports on Thursday. Lehman Brothers is looking for Zeneca to turn in final pre-tax profits of £820 million (£660 million). A dividend of 29.9p (28.5p) is predicted. Market forecasts range from £850 million to £875 million. The group has already said that it will incur a £60 million exceptional restructuring charge.

RTZ: Thursday's figures from the world's biggest mining group, which recently merged its operations with Australia's CRA, are expected to benefit from a 25 per cent jump in the copper and aluminium prices last year. RTZ holds a stake of about 77 per cent in the merged company, which was effectively formed on January 1. UBS expects net earnings to advance to £825 million (£775 million), with a total dividend of 26.8p (23.4p) predicted.



Sir Richard Sykes, who is expected to announce impressive Glaxo Wellcome results

ECONOMIC OUTLOOK

Gilts point to rate cut

THE centrepiece of this week as far as the City is concerned is Thursday's monthly monetary meeting between Kenneth Clarke and Eddie George, with the markets betting heavily that they will sanction another quarter-point cut in base rates. The gilt market rallied so strongly on Friday that a decision to leave rates unchanged may well provoke a setback. The only doubt on timing is whether the British authorities may wait for a month, by which time there may be interest rate cuts in America and Germany.

There is little further British data due before the monetary meeting. Narrow money M0 for February is published today and is expected to show growth of 0.8 per cent, compared with a drop of 0.2 per cent in January, according to the market consensus compiled by MMS International. This would boost its annual rate of growth to 5.9 per cent, from 5.5 per cent in January, but would be regarded as a serious impediment to lower base rates. On Thursday, the Confederation of British Industry's latest distributive trades survey is released. The latest cyclical indicators are also out on the day of the meeting.

The focus will also be on events abroad, particularly in the US and Germany, where there is interest rate speculation. After a weak US purchasing managers' survey on Friday, the employment data due for release on Friday is of interest. January saw a large 201,000 fall in non-farm payrolls, but this was largely pinned on poor weather and government shutdowns because of the budget impasse. Economists will be looking to see how much of a bounce-back there was in February, a better month for underlying trends.

In Germany, there is expected to be news on Wednesday of a sharp rise in unemployment in February, and Thursday is expected to confirm that the economy contracted in the fourth quarter.

JANET BUSH

SUNDAY TIPS

The Sunday Times: **Buy** Trocadero, Independent Insurance, Rolls-Royce; **Sell** First Technology. *The Sunday Telegraph*: **Buy** Smith & Nephew, EFT; **Sell** Lonrho, Glaxo Wellcome. *The Mail on Sunday*: **Buy** Unigate, Black Arrow; **Sell** Cairn Energy. *The Observer*: **Buy** Standard Chartered; **Sell** NatWest. *The Independent on Sunday*: **Buy** Barclays, Pet City Burford; **Sell** Rank, Cairn Energy, Standard Chartered.

TODAY BLOCKBUSTER VIDEO OFFERS EVERY TIMES READER THE CHANCE TO TAKE OUT A FREE FILM

See a free Blockbuster film on video

Today *The Times*, in association with Blockbuster Video, offers every reader the chance to take home a video from the Blockbuster Video Movie Collection for up to two nights absolutely free. All you need to do is collect three different tokens from those appearing in *The Times* until Friday, attach them to the voucher below, and take them to any of Blockbuster's 680 branches nationwide.

There are literally thousands of videos to choose from, ranging from killer-chillers such as *The Crying Game*, *Silence of the Lambs* or *North by Northwest*; mobster movies of which *The Godfather* trilogy reigns supreme (though fans of Jack Nicholson in *Chinatown* might dispute that); sci-fi thrillers such as *Alien* and *Jurassic Park* and all-time greats such as *The African Queen*, *Lawrence of Arabia* and *Casablanca*.

Videos are now part of a thriving multi-media industry and Blockbuster Video is Hollywood's biggest client, spending $1.5 billion last year. But for most people, videos mean the freedom to see what you want when you want to.

Blockbuster Video stores are open seven days a week, 364 days a year, and they get the latest box office hits only six months after they are released. Some Blockbuster Video stores have 10,000 film titles in 30 categories and up to 100 copies of a new release. They offer a range to suit all tastes including musicals, romances and comedies.

There is nothing quite like curling up with a favourite icon of the silver screen in the comfort of your own home, and with this offer you can savour scenes from long-forgotten classics such as the tender exchanges in the railway restaurant in *Brief Encounter*, or re-running Mel Gibson in *Mad Max*.

TERMS AND CONDITIONS
You may choose any film from the *Blockbuster* Video Movie Collection and keep your video for up to two nights. The offer is valid from March 6 to April 3, 1996. If you are not already a member of Blockbuster Video you will need to join, free of charge, by producing two forms of identification, eg. a driver's licence or a bank statement. The offer cannot be used in conjunction with any other offer. There is no cash alternative.



Clockwise from top left: Clark Gable and Vivien Leigh in *Gone With The Wind*; Michael Keaton in *Batman Returns*; Jack Nicholson in *Chinatown* and Kathy Bates and James Caan in *Misery*

BLOCKBUSTER VIDEO VOUCHER

This voucher, with another two differently numbered tokens attached, entitles the bearer to have a free video for up to two nights from the Blockbuster Video Movie Collection. The offer is valid until April 3, 1996, subject to availability. If you are not a member of Blockbuster Video, you will need to join, free of charge, by showing two forms of identification (eg. driver's licence and TV licence).

THE TIMES
BLOCKBUSTER VIDEO
TOKEN 2

Stock Exchange and Bank reach Crest agreement

BY PATRICIA TEHAN, BANKING CORRESPONDENT

THE Bank of England and the Stock Exchange have reached a compromise over Crest, the paperless share trading system that will be introduced this summer.

The Securities and Investments Board yesterday announced that it had approved an agreement between the London Stock Exchange and CrestCo, the company established to take over the development and management of Crest from the Bank of England. It is hoped the agreement will simplify and improve the proposed regime for reporting share trades under the Crest settlement system, saving market users a total of £7 million.

Talks had broken off last year after a fall-out over exchange demands for "seamless trading". However, after the dismissal of Michael Lawrence, chief executive of the Stock Exchange, in January, the two sides resumed talks.

CrestCo will issue a consultative paper by the end of March, setting out the proposed standards and, where appropriate, the necessary sanctions, which will ensure that both the the matching of instructions between parties to the settlement and the settlement itself take place within specified timescales.

At the heart of the dispute was the link between trading systems at the exchange and the Crest settlement system. The exchange wanted an interface between the two so that by the single input of a trade, all the processes of trading and settlement would be initiated automatically. But the board of Crest feared that contractual arrangements would be blurred and wanted direct input from both sides of the trade so that there would be confirmation that trade and settlement had taken place.

CrestCo investigated a variety of schemes that would deliver the substance of what the exchange demanded while delivering the necessary controls. But the exchange had been unwilling to compromise and no form of single input was achieved.

The argument over seamless trading was the second run-in between the exchange and the Bank. In the early days of Crest when the ownership structure was being established, the exchange demanded majority ownership. However, the Bank felt that, after the £400 million Taurus fiasco, ownership should be more diverse.

Eventually, the exchange accepted a small minority stake in CrestCo, along with other market participants.

The exchange will publish tomorrow its analysis of consultation into proposals for an electronic order-matching system. Mr Lawrence has blamed his dismissal on the opposition from market-makers to such a system. However, the analysis will show that, while market-makers do oppose the change to the current system, there is also broad opposition from institutional shareholders.



Traders' delight: the London International Financial Futures and Options Exchange (Liffe) traded a record 18,040,336 futures and options contracts in February, its busiest month ever, with daily trade worth £210 billion

Mortgage scams boost fraud level

BY JON ASHWORTH

FRAUD in Britain reached the second-highest point in nine years in 1995, fuelled by mortgage scams and a cashpoint sting which netted thousands of pounds. Recorded cases leapt 52 per cent to £466 million. Fraud against commercial business accounted for nearly a third of all cases.

The sharp rise in cases is disclosed in the 1995 KPMG Fraud Barometer, which charts recorded instances of fraud. The two big cases of 1995, Barings and Daiwa, fall outside the scope of the barometer, because charges were laid outside the UK.

Mortgage fraud featured heavily in 1995, although cases involving banks dropped by more than 25 per cent last year. The exception was the cashpoint sting, in which a fake building society cashpoint machine was set up in front of a shop. Account details and PIN numbers inserted were later used to fraudulently withdraw funds.

Adam Bates, KPMG Forensic Accounting partner, said: "These cases reveal the importance of maintaining strong and effective controls over the finance of professional firms, especially client funds, and the need for lenders to keep a tight rein on their controls.

"It is likely that we will see even more outlandish schemes used in the future." The biggest victim last year was the Government, which faced losses of up to £249 million on 14 cases, including tax fraud. Investors fell into the next biggest category, with 19 cases involving charges of £134 million.

Private sector pay levels increase

BY PHILIP BASSETT, INDUSTRIAL EDITOR

PAY settlements in the private sector are running higher than a year ago — with the floor for private sector deals edging up, a new study of wage agreements says today.

While pay deals overall are continuing to run ahead of inflation, the study says, in the private sector deals are "certainly stronger" than they were 12 months ago.

In its latest analysis of current wage trends, Industrial Relations Services, the independent pay analyst, says pay deals in the new year confirm the pattern of higher-level deals established last summer.

While deals are, in the main, staying level at 3.5 per cent overall, IRS says that there are signs of buoyancy in the top 25 per cent of pay settlements. There, the overall level of deals has moved up from 3.7 to 4 per cent in a month, and the study says that this trend is reflected in the broad industrial spread of the awards, from car manufacturers to engineering and service sector firms.

Although the Government has recently agreed pay rises for 1.3 million workers in the public sector covered by pay review bodies, IRS says that the decision to stage the awards means that they are unlikely to "add inflationary fuel to pay trends in the coming months".

But in the private sector, the base or floor for deals is rising. The bottom 25 per cent of deals are running at 3.2 per cent or less, IRS says, compared with a steady level of 3 per cent since last September.

Daimler's sale of MTU falls through

BY ROSS TIEMAN, INDUSTRIAL CORRESPONDENT

A JOINT effort by Rolls-Royce and BMW of Germany to buy MTU, the aero-engine business of Daimler-Benz, have failed.

Existing collaborative agreements between MTU and Pratt & Whitney, Rolls's American rival, have blocked a deal.

MTU is involved in the development of three new engines with Pratt & Whitney.

Although it would have preferred to sell the business to BMW, Daimler has now presented proposals to Pratt & Whitney that would enable MTU to focus on its core skill as a specialist high-tech aero-engine component supplier.

Daimler officials believe that, with some restructuring, MTU can meet Daimler's 12 per cent target rate of return on capital and thus justify retention within the group. That raises question marks over MTU's long-term role in warplane engines.

MTU is a partner, with Rolls-Royce and Turbomecca of Italy, in the manufacture of power plants for the Tornado bomber and the Eurofighter.

The move appears to leave BMW-Rolls set to become Germany's leading aero-engine manufacturer. BMW-Rolls is close to completing development of its first engine, the BR700 series, which has been designed to power business jets and airliners of up to 110 seats.

Separately, Daimler has opened discussions with several companies in the hope of selling Dornier, its turbo-prop maker.

Deutsche ready to launch new super era

BY OUR CITY STAFF

DEUTSCHE Morgan Grenfell, flexing its muscles as it seeks to secure a big presence in world investment banking, inaugurates its super-trading floor in London today.

The cavernous trading room spanning 36,000 sq ft — the size of a football pitch — is one of the largest in London. Built at an estimated cost of £20 million, it will accommodate 600 traders at 462 work stations at the bank's Great Winchester Street head office in the City.

Just over 15 months ago Deutsche Bank, Germany's largest commercial bank, merged its investment banking operations with those of Morgan Grenfell, its UK subsidiary, and shocked the German financial community, and the Bonn Government, by locating the entire operation in London.

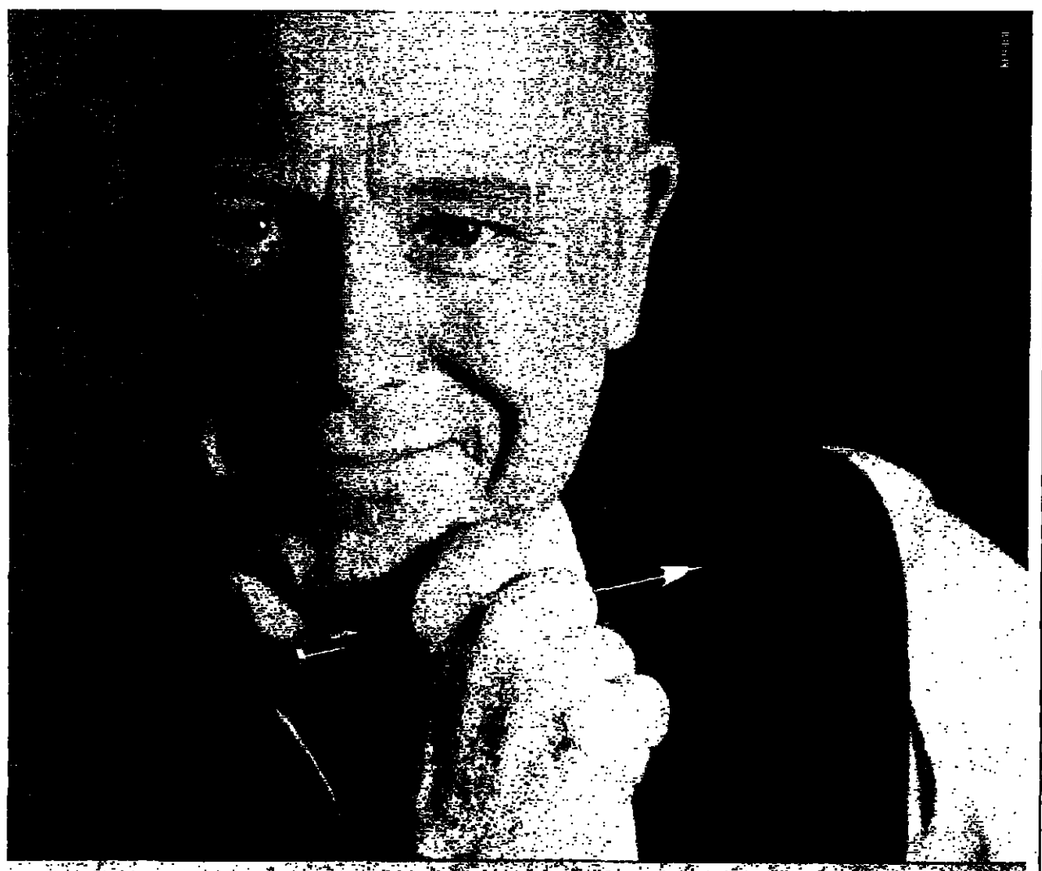
Now Deutsche is taking on the American and international powerhouses at the top of investment banking.

Ronaldo Schmitz, the Deutsche board member charged with running Deutsche Morgan Grenfell, has placed great confidence in Edson Mitchell, the head of the global markets division that includes dealing and sales in areas such as currencies and debt.

Mr Mitchell, 42, who earns more than the bank board members who appointed him, has already apparently paid for himself by escaping unscathed the sharp decline this year in the global bond markets that snared the competition.

Deutsche Morgan Grenfell employs 7,000 people worldwide, of which 2,000 work for global markets. In the next two to three years, the bank aims to become one of the three largest firms in the global markets area.

In three to five years, the group wants to capture the number one spot globally in terms of profitability and market share.



ALTERNATIVE INVESTMENT MARKET

Dealers predict premium for IOC

BY PHILIP PANGALOS

IOC, which supplies optics to the telecoms industry, should enjoy a healthy premium when it makes its debut on the Alternative Investment Market for smaller and growing companies tomorrow. David Abrahams, a dealer at Winterflood Securities, expects the shares, which are being placed at 80p, to open at about the 100p level.

AIM, which now has 128 companies listed with a total market capitalisation of £2.63 billion, received a big boost last week after Merrill Lynch commenced making markets in the shares of 25 companies.

Paul Roy, managing director of Merrill Lynch's equity sales and trading in Europe and Asia Pacific, said: "Our willingness to commit capital and other resources to AIM reflects the firm's deep commitment not only to the UK equity market but also to the smaller company sector where we already make markets in about 700 UK listed companies. We intend to extend that commitment by providing research coverage through our smaller companies team."

Freepages, the telephone directory company, enjoyed a healthy start to trading on AIM last week, with its shares racing to 16½p, compared with a placing price of 12p.

However, Memory Corporation reminded investors of the potential dangers of investing in AIM. Its shares suffered a big setback after the computer products company accompanied increased losses with a profits warning. Shares in Memory Corporation slumped by 107p on Friday to 225p, giving a hefty loss of 177p on the week.

Skypepharma, the pharmaceutical group, pleased the market with four appointents including Walter Zeller, formerly with Ciba-Geigy, as a non-executive director.

ALTERNATIVE INVESTMENT MARKET

Mkt cap (million)	Company	Price (pence)	Wkly +/–	Yld %	P/E
15.80	AMCO Corp	111	+ 2	5.1	12.2
2.25	Abacus Recruit	41	...	...	...
19.20	A de Gruchy	130	...	5.4	10.8
11.60	African Gold	11¼	+ ¼	...	...
4.92	Albemarle & Bd	13¼	+ ¼	...	...
10.50	Alpha Omikron	20	...	...	...
37.80	Ann St Brewery	395	+ 15	5.5	11.9
5.30	Ann St Cv Pf	895	...	8.9	...
78.20	Antonov	110	+ 17	...	...
1.69	Arion Props	8	– 1	...	...
11.40	Ask Central	71	– 2	...	...
1.05	Athelney Trust	58	...	...	...
5.76	Ballymatray	5½	– ½	...	...
4.88	Baris Hldgs	19	...	...	...
3.85	Belcanto	43	...	...	...
0.99	Bowness Leis	145	– ½	3.9	...
	Bown Leis Cv Pf	70	...	...	...
5.32	Brancote Hldgs	53	...	...	...
36.80	Brockbank	312	+ 7	2.5	31.2
0.94	CCI Hldgs	118	...	...	...
0.13	CCI Founder Shs	110	...	...	...
3.29	Cafe Inns	115	+ 3	2.2	9.5
6.25	Caledonian Tst	55	– 10	...	6.7
15.70	Card Clear	70	+ 5	...	...
3.39	Cassidy Bros	62	+ 2	6.0	8.8
1.79	Cavendish W F	41	– 2	...	20.8
5.28	Celebrated Group	18	...	...	...
24.00	Celtic	9250	+2500	...	...
	Celtic Pf Shs	9250	+2500	...	...
16.00	Cf Comms(TV)	119	...	2.5	15.3
7.57	Chartwell Intl	71	...	...	...
0.99	Clan Homes	110	...	...	...
12.70	ClubPartners	30	– 1	...	...
12.20	Com de Pri Fin	510	...	...	...
7.59	Conister Tst	38	+ 1	2.6	16.3
13.50	Country Gdns	73	...	2.1	15.1
2.68	Cntry Gdns Pf	73	...	9.1	...
33.00	Creos Intl	92	...	...	...
16.10	Crown Products	61	+ 5	...	...
11.30	DBS Management	167	+ 10	4.5	6.8
	Dalkeith Inns	34	– 1	...	...
3.58	David Glass	66	...	5.5	9.4
56.00	Dawson Hldgs	1225	...	3.1	...
4.09	Dean Corp	14	+ 1	...	...
12.60	Dimatek	67	– 3	...	...
84.10	Electrophoretics Intl	130	– 10	...	...
5.62	Euro Sales Fn	125	...	...	...
	Fairlake	335	...	...	...
5.18	Finl Publs	220	+ 55	...	...
22.80	Firecrest	137	– 5	...	59.6
5.43	Flomerics	212	– 3	...	19.3
6.70	Floral St	268	...	0.4	...
16.60	Formscan	158	– 33	1.6	20.6
56.80	Freepages	15½	...	...	...
4.80	Furlong Homes	96	+ 1	3.1	5.1
26.70	Gander Hldgs	9¼	– ½	...	78.9
6.00	Greenhills	20	...	...	...
32.40	Guilon	145	– 2	3.4	13.1
3.67	Hansom	36	...	...	...
56.80	Hiscox Ded Ins	125	...	0.3	...
10.70	Indpt Radio	107	...	...	...
14.40	Inmar Workings	86	+ 1	...	...
21.50	Intl Greetings	513	...	1.2	...
3.67	Jasmin	90	...	...	13.5
18.80	Jennings Bros	290	...	2.7	20.8
42.80	KS Biomedix	113	...	...	...
25.70	Lancashire Enterprises	142	+ 5	3.6	...
14.80	Lawrence	243	...	0.8	...
53.70	Lawrie Group	2750	...	3.2	14.0
43.10	Le Riches Strs	260	...	7.4	25.5
	Lifehome As Ten	95	...	...	...
26.60	Lon Fiduciary	29¼	– ¼	...	...
1.38	London Town	55	– 5	...	...
12.80	Lorien Grp	225	...	2.1	...
12.40	Mann & O'seas	21	– 3	1.9	28.4
47.00	Megalomedia	109	– 2	...	...
	Megalomedia Wts	97	– 2	...	...
5.57	Mellek	88	...	...	39.3
133.20	Memory Corp	225	–177	...	...
6.33	Metrodome Films	22	...	...	...
16.70	Moorepay	220	+ 35	2.5	...
9.27	Mountcashel	07¼	...	...	...
21.10	MultiMedia	73	+ 4	...	...
25.10	NWF Grp	335	...	2.4	16.2
	Nash (Wm)	210	...	3.9	...
8.73	Neill Clerk	345	...	2.2	16.7
5.63	Neilson Cobbold	205	...	2.3	...
	Norcity II	73	...	...	...
	Norhomes	73	...	...	...
7.79	Nthn Petim	68	...	...	...
0.13	Nthn Petim Wrts	8	...	...	...
	Nthmb Res Prps	66	...	...	...
17.90	Nursing Home	116	...	1.3	33.4
11.40	Old English Pub	96	...	1.3	...
5.24	Omnicare	85	...	2.2	14.1
10.70	Omnimedia	60	...	...	...
16.20	Optical Care	70	...	...	...
18.70	Pacific Media	13¼	...	...	...
	Pacific Med Pf	54	– 1	...	...
16.10	Pan Andean Res	39	...	...	...
4.31	Park Estls(Liv)	180	– 10	...	...
91.00	Pet City	375	– 20	...	...
29.80	Polymasc Pharms	149	...	...	...
3.62	Preston Nth E	400	...	...	...
1.13	Revelation Piccadilly	105	...	...	...
10.60	Riceman Insce	16	...	...	...
3.60	Rushmere Wynne	4	...	...	...
0.14	Rush Wyn Wrts	1½	...	...	...
7.20	SCS Satellite	70	– 5	...	...
1.95	Scotswood Inds	28	...	4.5	...
	Scott Pride	43	...	...	...
15.40	Scrutions	320	+ 20	5.1	13.0
2.92	Self Sealing	50	– 1	...	...
	Silkbarn	3	...	...	...
64.90	SkyePharma	9¾	+ ½	...	...
0.97	SkyePharma B Wts	8	– ¼	...	...
132.30	Southern News	561	...	3.5	15.6
	Southern Vectis	58	+ 5	...	...
81.20	Stanford Rook	442	+ 47	...	...
16.60	Surrey Fr Inns	165	– 3	1.5	19.4
40.50	TRACKER Netwk	765	– 20	...	...
5.36	Tele Cred Eur	53	+ 2	...	...
	Tele Cred Wrts	38	...	...	...
17.30	Toad	103	– 2	...	...
	Trinity Care	175	...	1.1	...
	Trinity Care Pf	170	...	...	...
215.40	Trocadero	51	...	...	...
	Univent	40	...	...	...
7.89	Utd Auctions	443	– 15	1.1	...
12.80	VDC	765	+ 15	3.1	13.4
35.70	Versailles Grp	13½	...	...	22.0
9.15	Viewmn	305	+115	...	...
	Voss	250	+ 10	...	...
	Wedderburn Secs	10	...	...	...
	Wedd Secs Wrnts	4	...	...	...
5.60	Western Selectn	16	...	...	...
2.63	Westmount Engy	28	...	...	63.6
6.76	W'chester M Mkt	61	+ 3	...	...
	Wynnstay Props	145	...	...	...
25.80	Zergo	280	...	...	...

هكذا من الأصل

Employers lobby Labour over training levy



Byers: talks

By Philip Bassett
Industrial Editor

LABOUR is likely to retain training levies for the construction industry in response to pressure from employers.

Companies in the engineering construction and building industries are to press Labour to retain a levy in these two sectors when the party unveils its new proposals for the funding of training later this month.

Industry leaders in the two sectors maintain that without the grant-levy system operating, most if not all training will disappear. They say that the industries' special circumstances of short contracts on projects and a highly mobile labour force coupled with demands for high skill levels mean that training is essential — but that the levy system is the only method which will provide it.

Peter Griffiths, director of the Engineering Construction Industry Training Board, who is to press the industry's case for a levy in talks soon with Stephen Byers, Labour's training spokesman.

Mr Griffiths says that alternative ideas such as personal training accounts will not work in his industry. The board currently adminsters a £9 million annual levy. He says: "The levy works — there is no question about it. We will be arguing for special case retention of the present system — not for industry generally, but for our industries."

Labour last year launched a review of its long-standing policy of funding industrial training by means of a statutory levy on companies, coupled to a system of grants.

Business opposes the levy system, and is much more in favour of the incentive-based learning-account ideas which Labour will unveil at the end of this month as its new training policy. The Government also opposes the levy system, and in the 1980s scrapped all but two of the industrial training boards which used to administer it, insisting that the system was bureaucratic and inflexible, and did not provide adequate training. Instead, the Government chose locally-based and business-led training and enterprise councils as the main mechanism for delivering training.

But, as part of its new policy, Labour is likely to agree to the calls from employers in the engineering construction and building industries for the retention of the levy-grant system there, in spite of the party's policy move away from the idea in its proposals overall.

Agreement on councils expected

Trade union leaders across Europe are set to agree minimum standards for the creation of European works councils. Unions insist that common standards are necessary to ensure the smooth working of the councils and to make sure that employees covered by them are treated fairly across Europe.

But the move is likely to reinforce opposition to works councils from the Government and business leaders in the UK, who say the rigid prescriptions for the councils laid down in EU law do not suit individual companies.

Companies in the UK are increasingly voluntarily adopting the councils despite the Government's opt-out from the social chapter of the Maastricht treaty.

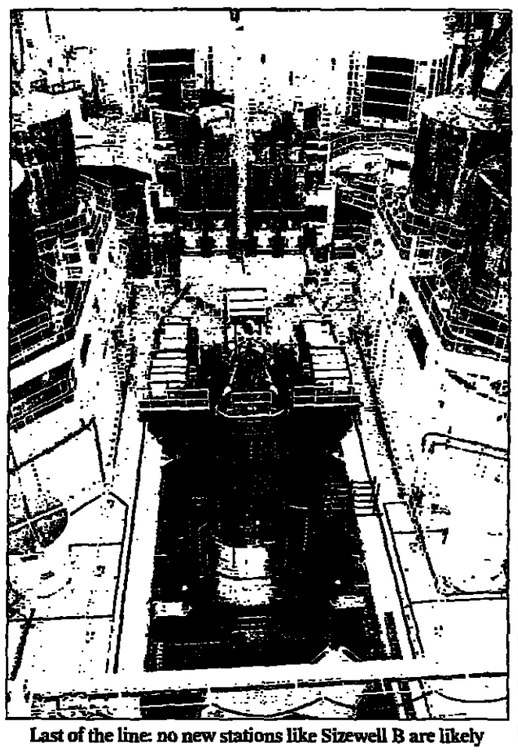
Ballot result

The ballot result is expected today on industrial action by thousands of workers at United Utilities, the merged group of North West Water and Norweb, the regional electricity company. Workers were balloted after the company moved to derecognise employees drafted into a new facilities management operation of the business.

Fujitsu delay

Fujitsu, the Japanese electronics company, has postponed the opening of its semiconductor factory in Co Durham for about six months because of uncertainty about future market conditions for computer memory chips. The factory was originally scheduled to start production in the summer of 1997.

Government opens sale campaign for British Energy



Last of the line: no new stations like Sizewell B are likely

By Christine Buckley

THE Government today launches in earnest its privatisation campaign for British Energy, seeking to convince the City that the nuclear power entity can justify its price tag of about £2.5 billion.

City analysts will hear what BZW, the broker acting for the Department of Trade and Industry, believes are the prospects for the most modern of the power stations and what is likely to be the extent of the generators' liabilities for disposing of waste.

But the presentations, which will gauge City reaction and lead to an eventual flotation price for the reactors belonging to Nuclear Electric and Scottish Nuclear, come as the Government and British Energy, the new company formed from the eight stations, are locked in argument over who should pick up the liabilities bill.

The Government is insistent that the State picks up none of the bill for the estimated £14 billion liabilities. The company, led by Bob Hawley, chief executive, is equally adamant it should not face privatisation saddled with such a cash commitment. The clash is believed to be so strong that some observers have questioned whether Dr Hawley will survive the fight.

But analysts will also be keen to know what the projections are for the future of British Energy. It is undoubtedly a strong cash generator but the future strategy of the company will be fundamental for long-term investment concerns. It has been speculated that the anodyne name of British Energy may signal diversification into non-nuclear generation.

The huge cost of building nuclear plant would seem to prohibit the exhumation of plans for Sizewell C or similar new developments. The eventual flotation price of British Energy is widely expected to fall significantly short of the £2.9 billion cost of the Sizewell B power station.

The sale of the nuclear stations is expected to cost the taxpayer about £25 million in fees paid to financial and legal advisers, public relations costs and advertising expenses.

That budget, according to a response by Tim Eggar, the Energy Minister, to Margaret Beckett, Labour's trade and industry spokesman, will be spent on 21 companies handling the restructuring and promotion of the nuclear generation business.

British Energy was formed through the merger of Scottish Nuclear and Nuclear Electric. It will have about 25 per cent of the electricity market, making it the biggest supplier ahead of National Power, which speaks for a 20 per cent market share.

A&L stops selling endowments

By Caroline Merrell

ALLIANCE & LEICESTER Building Society will stop selling endowment policies to its customers today as it launches its own life insurance and unit trust companies.

The society said that it had made its decision because it felt the public had become disaffected with the product.

Endowments have been criticised strongly for their high charges and low flexibility. Instead, the society will offer customers a personal equity plan to pay off their mortgages.

The Alliance & Leicester is the latest society to set up companies specifically to sell financial products to its own customer base. Halifax, Nationwide and the Woolwich already run their own life insurance and unit trust operations, as do all the high street banks.

Alliance & Leicester is also severing its tie-up with Scottish Amicable. The society is believed to have considered but rejected setting up a joint life company with Scotam.

Guy Whiting, the managing director of the two new companies, said: "We wanted to provide our customers with a straightforward range and competitive products."

He added: "We found that customers were not interested in bells and whistles. The number of endowments we sell has fallen." He said that endowments now accounted for less than 10 per cent of its new business, down from its peak of 40 per cent.

Mr Whiting said that it was planned to start selling pensions later in the year.

In February, Alliance & Leicester announced plans for a stock market flotation, which is expected to go ahead next year.

THE TIMES CITY DIARY

Sir Stanley boils it down

SIR STANLEY KALMS, streetwise boss of electrical retailer Dixons, has lost none of his instinct for what the customer wants. Confronted, in his non-executive role at British Gas, by the Network Code, a huge set of rules for operation of the company's pipeline system, Kalms demanded a one-page synopsis. The result actually covers both sides of the sheet, but nonetheless, 10,000 have been snapped up by customers of TransCo, the pipelines business.

Half way

JAMES CAPEL is celebrating half a legal victory over broker Credit Suisse Asset Management after a High Court wrangle. A ten-man private-client brokers' team previously employed by CSAM is now united at Capels after a High Court ruling that a period of six months gardening leave was reasonable, rather than a full 12 months to which CSAM sought to bind half of them. When last autumn the private-client team resigned, (City Diary, August 31) CSAM sought to hold the brokers not only to their various notice periods but also to their restrictive covenants. Last week, the matter went to Court. Although the question of leave went in their favour, the team is not happy that individually each of them is restrained for a further six months from contacting previous clients. As a matter of urgent cy, an appeal has been lodged on the grounds that to deprive a client from dealing with a broker of his choice is unfair, unjust and unreasonable.

Tucking in

IF THE Prince of Wales is passing through Morpeth, Northumberland, today, he'll find proprietors Peter Houliston and Alistair Young only too happy to give him a porkey — as in a sausage — in their expanded premises. The previously unemployed pair were granted a £5,000 loan by the Prince's Youth Business Trust to set up Porkeys Sandwich Bar in 1993 and did so well that the Trust loaned a further £5,000 to expand the business. Last year, Porkeys — already winner of the North East Top New Business Award — reported a turnover of £100,000. At £1.20 to £2 each, that's a lot of sandwiches.

SOMETIMES, you can't win with banks. A colleague asked his German bank in Cologne to draw a cheque from his savings account for DM3,000, only to find the cheque had been made payable to "Tithe Barn", the name of his house.

Gas and gaiters

THE Corporation of London is doing its bit to clean up the City by taking delivery today of its first gas-powered dustcart. John Chalstrey, The Lord Mayor, will formally receive it at St Paul's Churchyard. The Corporation has 13 conventional diesel vehicles costing £95,000 each, but the new truck, at £100,000, should be more environmentally friendly. It runs on natural gas and will, therefore, be something of a companion to the Corporation's single gas-powered Ford Escort van — whose sole purpose is to deliver lavatory paper to the City's 30 conveniences. But there's a snag. "We have to drive two miles down the Old Kent Road to get a refill", the man on the back of the cart sighs.

No hiding place

THE long arm of the SFA forever stretches towards justice. In pursuit of an unpaid £250,000 fine imposed on Anthony O'Sullivan, a former broker with Sassoon (Europe), whose deals with the Kuwait Investment Office in the early 1990s led to his being struck off its registers, the SFA is now seeking a High Court order for payment of the fine and costs, along with interest of £32,206 and continuing interest of £51 a day.

Colin Campbell

Why bond markets love a slump

Bond markets love economic recessions. They relish the lower inflation that slowdown brings, they delight in the private sector's reduced demand for credit, and, best of all, they adore the easy money policies that central banks can normally be relied upon to implement to revive their economies. Indeed, the relationship of strong bond prices and weak GDP trends is so reliable and robust that it is tempting to see any hiccup in the former as a consequence of one in the latter.

This probably explains why the analytical community now talks about the strengthening pattern of global economic activity. There is a compulsion to account for the softness of bond markets in recent weeks, and the "recovery" thesis is conveniently plausible — even if it requires extra-sensory perception to identify corroborative evidence. Everyone sees in an inkblot what he is pre-disposed to see, and the market analyst is more susceptible than most.

The reality, more likely, is that levels of activity are still well below capacity. It is not that consumers and industrialists have no spending power, just that they wish not to deploy it. They are pessimistic. Insecurity impels them to use incremental income to pay down old debt; they cannot bring themselves to extend borrowings.

This was the picture of the US economy painted by Alan Greenspan in his recent testimony to Congress. He noted that GDP, after out-growing its potential in 1994, was under-shooting it by the end of 1995. The chances of "excesses" developing in the near term were seen as almost negligible.

The situation in Germany is weaker still. Hans Tietmeyer and his "wise" institutes were slow to spot the anaemia, but have gradually begun to do so. Estimates of growth in 1996 are certainly being revised downwards. A maverick minority already sees the possibility of recession; three months hence, the consensus will recognise its inevitability.

Only in Japan is there any convincing evidence of an upturn — and, even there, hardly a frantic one. GDP might currently have accelerated to an annualised pace of 2 per cent. It will possibly quicken still further in the months ahead. However, with an output gap (the difference between capacity and actuality) of as much as 10 per cent, there is no danger of overheating for a couple of years or more.

If economics has not been responsible for the loss of momentum in fixed-interest markets, what has been? There are two possibilities. The first is that the world's central banks have engineered an "unintended" tightening of monetary conditions. The second is that "hedgers" are up to their knavish tricks again.

An accidental squeeze on liquidity will occur from time to time. The authorities may try to steer the monetary ship on a steady course, but will fail whenever "tides" (in the form of seasonal influences) shift unreliably. Seasonal adjustment programs, however sophisticated, are fallible. Based on old patterns, they cannot anticipate new ones. Occasionally, therefore, the authorities are likely to be a little too severe, or too lax. For the economy, such errors are of no significance. Long before it can blow the economy off course, the seasonal adjustment glitch will be reversed.

The investor works to a much shorter time-scale, however. A month is a long time in markets. A short squeeze (even if it were subsequently reversed) might have a profound impact on valuations — especially if its operation sparked the activities of the second influence mentioned, the hedgers. They pay a good deal of attention to "momentum". They tend to buy what is rising, and sell what is falling. Their actions often, therefore, validate and extend an established trend — however initiated.

The February-to-November bond market decline of 1994 may well have been of this sort. What is certain is that there was never any "economics" justification for it. Analysts may have thought they spotted one at the time, but, really, "plausible explanation" syndrome was blinding them.

Is it possible that the phenomenon is repeating itself? If so, the message for non-hedging investors is the same as then. So long as the economic auguries remain dull, valuations can be expected eventually to recover. The further prices fall now, the more ferociously will they rebound then. Don't sell illogically because others are doing so. Buy logically, instead.

R. D. Nightingale
Latinvest Securities

GILT-EDGED

WORD-WATCHING

Answers from page 32

CONCHE

(c) To knead (chocolate) in a concher-machine, a mixer with shell-like appliances like *conche shells, which work the chocolate* and keep it plastic. "When you make chocolate you have to conche it. This means mixing and kneading it in a special machine for a very long time, even days on end, to develop its smoothness and flavour."

FAUNIZONE

(b) A zone characterised by a particular assemblage of fossils. a portmanteau word *from fauna* animals + *zone*. "Faunizones are the successive faunal facies exhibited in strata."

BEEGA

(a) A measure of land-area in India varying locally from ½ acre to 1 acre. From the Hindi. Variously transliterated *as bigah, begah, and biggah*. Warren Hastings, 1763: "I never seized a boga [sic] or a beswa of the land belonging to Calcutta."

ATOLE

(a) A kind of corn or other meal: gruel or porridge made of this. An American-Spanish word derived from the Nahuatl *atolli*. "A An American-Spanish word derived from the Nahuatl atolli. "A breakfast of barley meal. It is boiled in water: the Indians give this food the name of atole."

SOLUTION TO WINNING CHESS MOVE

1 .. Qg1+! 2 Kxg1 Rxe1 mate

TOURIST RATES

	Bank Buys	Bank Sells
Australia $	2.10	1.94
Austria Sch ...	16.89	15.39
Belgium Fr	49.40	45.10
Canada $	2.204	2.044
Cyprus Cyp£	0.753	0.698
Denmark Kr ..	9.34	8.54
Finland Mkk ..	7.54	6.89
France Fr	8.15	7.50
Germany Dm	2.41	2.20
Greece Dr	391.00	366.00
Hong Kong $	12.49	11.49
Ireland Pt	1.02	0.94
Israel Shk	5.1500	4.5000
Italy Lira	2487.00	2332.00
Japan Yen	175.90	159.90
Malta	0.592	0.537
Netherlds Gld	2.681	2.451
New Zealand $	2.42	2.20
Norway Kr	10.42	9.62
Portugal Esc ..	245.50	227.00
S Africa Rd	6.50	5.70
Spain Pta	197.00	184.00
Sweden Kr	10.95	10.15
Switzerland Fr	1.98	1.80
Turkey Lira	refer.	94318.0
USA $	1.629	1.499

Rates for small denomination bank notes only as supplied by Barclays Bank PLC. Different rates apply to traveller's cheques. Rates as at close of trading on Friday.

CHANGE ON WEEK

THE POUND

US dollar
1.5282 (-0.0121)
German mark
2.2558 (+0.0211)
Exchange index
83.6 (+0.3)
Bank of England official close (4pm)

STOCK MARKET

FT 30 share
2775.5 (+14.9)
FT-SE 100
3752.7 (+12.4)
New York Dow Jones
5536.56 (-93.93)
Tokyo Nikkei Avge
20168.63 (-131.75)

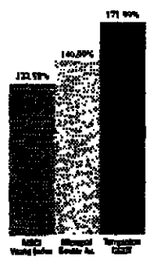


IN 1963, BUYING INTO JAPAN WAS AS POPULAR AS EATING FUGU FISH.
AFTER TEMPLETON'S SUCCESS THERE, DEVELOPING A GLOBAL GROWTH TRUST FOR THE UK WAS A PIECE OF CAKE

For over 40 years Templeton has sought exceptional investment opportunities around the world. Today, the Franklin Templeton Group has nearly four million shareholder accounts worldwide and over £90 billion under management.

The fugu is Japan's 'deadly' delicacy made from poisonous pufferfish. Thirty years ago, most Westerners thought investing in Japan was almost as unappetising. But Templeton did invest. And so carefully that investors' capital soared, as rising sun industries became the envy of the world. The secret, as they say in Japanese, is *Kekki no yu imashimuru koto:* to guard against impetuous courage.

That's one reason why Templeton has been successful. Across the world, their famous 'nose for a bargain' is backed by stringent disciplines and long term vision. For example, the Templeton Global Growth Unit Trust searches worldwide for the best investment bargains and has ranked in the top 25% of funds in its sector over 3 and 5 years.® As with any investment, past performance is not necessarily a guide to future returns; values and income may fall as well as rise; investors may not get back the full amount invested; and changes in rates of exchange may cause values to fluctuate. But perhaps you'd like to combine global equities with tax-saving? You can place 25% of your tax-free PEP allowances in the Global Growth Trust. (The Templeton Value Trust supports your full PEP allowance.)* There's no extra charge for either PEP. And you gain the benefit of Templeton's equity expertise. Ask your Financial Adviser for details. Or return the coupon below or call free, during office hours Monday to Friday, on 0800 27 27 28.



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Please send me more information, and a free copy of "Templeton Maxims" booklet. I am especially interested in:
- ☐ Templeton Global Growth Unit Trust (From £20/month. Min lump sum: £1,000)
- ☐ Templeton Global Growth PEP* (From £20/month. Max tax-free investment: £1,500)
- ☐ Templeton Value Trust PEP* (From £20/month. Max tax-free investment: £6,000)
- ☐ Templeton Investment Plan (From £30/month. Min lump sum: £250)
- ☐ Templeton Global Strategy Sicav* (Min initial investment: £3,000)

TT96/03

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Address _____
_____ Postcode _____

Templeton

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Cleaning up dross can turn green into gold

The missing link between Labour's policy intentions and the means to achieve them is the most elusive political grail of the age. Green folk thrilled to Tony Blair's speech on the environment at the Royal Society last week. Those used to his rhetoric on other subjects remained understandably more sceptical.

Today, there is one positive sign. Frank Dobson, Labour's environment spokesman, is giving vocal backing to a campaign by the Environmental Industries Commission to stop delays in controls being applied to industries that pollute the air with solvents. Dragging our feet, he says, allows foreign competitors to get ahead and grab the lion's share of a huge world market in clean-up equipment and technology. John Gummer, the Environment Secretary, would probably not disagree with a word. He might even add a few. But practical politics often spoils good intentions.

Until now, Mr Dobson's main attack has been on the prices, profits and failures of privatised water companies. Yet this industry has spent more money and effort in the 1990s than any other to cut pollution, improve the purity of its product and aid public health. Environmental economic indicators of the kind that Mr Blair pledged are already made up by the OECD in Paris. They suggest, for instance, that Britain has a better record on water supply and sewage treatment than most comparable countries.

Environmental issues are often not black and green, but shades of grey. Estuarial barrages could generate power without emissions of sulphur dioxide, greenhouse gases or other nasties. But they would probably bring catastrophe to existing wildlife. Nuclear power is panacea for some, anathema to others.

In reality, no large-scale energy production is environmentally friendly. As Mr Blair rightly twigged, saving energy is the only reliably green answer. But attempts to cut consumption are bound to conflict with the dynamaics of the energy market. Energy-saving appliances and domestic insulation could have been subsidised heavily from



GRAHAM SEARJEANT

surplus cash in electricity companies. In this area, however, tax and price signals have to be pretty garish to achieve results. As the Government discovered over VAT on fuel, they usually cause most pain to the poorest and force big permanent increases in public spending. Much anger is caused by similar arguments over transport.

Fortunately, huge opportunities more than match the problems. As sensibilities in affluent countries and devastation of developing countries grow hand in hand, the technologies that can help have become some of the fastest growing. They will help the manufacturing sectors of high-wage countries to retain a competitive advantage.

Such industries are worth nurturing. Politically, that is common ground. The best and strongest companies always keep ahead of the game. The average company cleans up its act only when obliged to do so by regulation, even if the cost of the clean-up is often paid for by improved efficiency.

Environmental industries therefore depend on government to introduce regulations. They depend even more on government being consistent. That does not mean their interests are paramount. The Commons Environment Select Committee rejected any delay in the original deadline for solvent emissions, but it is hard for outsiders to judge. It is clearly wrong to make one decision, and then change it four years later, bringing a two-year hiatus in orders for anti-pollution contractors. Those who have invested in R&D look stupid, instead of inspired. The contractors were not consulted.

This is not the only example to deter would-be environmental growth companies. The scandal of the Brent Spar North Sea platform was really the policy enunciated by Tim Eggar, the Energy Minister. The fate of all rigs would be dealt with on an individual case-by-case basis. How can a new British industry with world potential develop on that basis? When it comes, the work will probably go abroad. A potential industry to clean up coal-fired power stations was smothered in infancy by like perfidy.

Comparative advantage is built by practice, which hones skills and solves problems. When you lag behind, you tend to stay behind, leaving the market to others. Tony Blair, like others, will find that there are conflicts between environmental concerns and competitiveness. Planning ahead sensibly with polluters and environmental industries is one sure way to turn green into gold.

Adrift in a sea of troubles

Kvaerner has Trafalgar House in its sights. George Sivell explains why it is a bid target



Trafalgar had to repay £8.4 million to passengers because of delays in refitting the *Queen Elizabeth 2*

The sight of a Cunard cruise liner adrift without power in the South China Sea last week told its own story of the limp Trafalgar House conglomerate. Just as Cunard was grappling with a looming public relations disaster over the fire in the engine room of the *Sagafjord*, Trafalgar, the parent company, was going on to bid alert after a takeover approach from Kvaerner, the Norwegian shipbuilding and engineering group.

While the crisis PR drill should be well enough rehearsed by Trafalgar, after the disastrous 1995 *QE2* world cruise, the need to man the bid defences comes as a complete surprise to outsiders and insiders alike. The result of tripartite talks is expected early this week.

In spite of problems in property, contracting and at sea, Trafalgar appeared well sheltered from a bid because it seemed unlikely that anyone would want it and because it was protected by the 26 per cent stake held by Jardine Matheson, the Far East conglomerate, after its Hongkong Land offshoot helped a rescue rights issue for Trafalgar in 1992.

Jardine had ideas and ambitions for Trafalgar. Trafalgar, with Simon Keswick at the helm, became the first bidder for a privatised regional electricity company. Mr Keswick, a farmer in the Scottish borders, made a bid for neighbouring Northern Electric. The deal would have transformed Trafalgar. Cashflow from an electricity utility would have cut debts and would have been protected by £300 million or so of stored up tax shelter, created by Trafalgar's history of huge losses.

Northern, however, managed to cling on to its independence by offering shareholders a string of incentives, bonuses and special dividends, which in turn has rendered the company bid proof. Nobody else will pay out.

Jardine started eyeing up Trafalgar after Sir Nigel Broackes and Sir Eric Parker, its two founders, left the main board with payoffs of £1.9 million. This was a sorry end to almost 30 years of empire building that had seen the acquisition of great British names in engineering under the patriotic Trafalgar banner, and the acquisition of deluxe brand names such as Cunard, the *QE2* and the Ritz hotel in London. Their exit from the boardroom in 1992 came after a dramatic strike by the Financial Reporting Review Panel, an offshoot of the Accounting Standards Board, which took exception to the £122 million pre-tax profit reported by Trafalgar for the year to September 30, 1991. After the threat of legal action by the ASB, Trafalgar restated its 1991 profits at £19.7 million.

Shareholders vented their anger at the January 1993 annual meeting by calling for the resignation of Touche Ross as auditors. By then, shareholders had already had enough. The beginning of the end was heralded by one deal too far — the acquisition of Davy Corporation, which brought with it the so-called rig of doom. Davy converted a drill ship into a North Sea production platform for the Emerald field, but incurred huge losses and liabilities.

Such financial strains left Trafalgar insiders feeling that the company was failing as a conglomerate. Losses of £30 million in the year to September 30, 1992 were largely caused by a huge £138 million writedown on the commercial property portfolio. This left little money for investment, just as competition in the cruise market was intensifying and Cunard would have preferred to build a new *QE2* to take on other leading world cruise liners.

Plans were drawn up but the cost of building could not be met, much to Cunard's disappointment, especially when P&O revealed plans to build the *Oriana* superliner. The consequence was a decision to refit the existing *QE2* at a planned cost of £20 million or so to bring it up to date.

Cunard had intended to finish the refit before the start of the *QE2* round-the-world cruise in 1994-95, but the work over-ran and was still continuing as passengers sailed away from Southampton. The result is to be found on page 42 of Trafalgar's 1995 report and accounts, an exceptional charge of £8.4 million covering repayments to passengers. The ill-fated refit also claimed the job of John Olsen, the director who, ironically, had been sent in by Jardine Matheson to improve marketing of Cunard's ships.



Keswick: bid thwarted



Broackes: joint founder

Prior to the bid talks with Kvaerner being announced, Trafalgar had pledged to spend £31 million over the next two years on improving Cunard's performance through cost savings and better marketing. No profit at Cunard is expected, in the meantime.

But like everything else at Trafalgar, Cunard's future hinges on the continuing bid talks with the Norwegians. One can only speculate on the attraction of Kvaerner to Trafalgar.

On construction, Trafalgar said in its recent annual report that it its UK operations remain a source of major concern although overseas opportunities are better. Further British rationalisation is likely. Engineering remained in losses and the commercial property divisions look bleak.

RISE AND FALL OF TRAFALGAR

1965 — Trafalgar House Investments Ltd is formed
1966 — Trafalgar House goes public
1967 — Buys Ideal Homes
1968 — Buys builder Trollope & Colls
1970 — Buys civil engineer Cementation
1971 — Buys Cunard shipping company
1982 — Buys Redpath Dorman Long, floats off Fleet Holdings newspapers
1986 — Buys John Brown Engineering
1989 — Acquisitions include 40 per cent stake in British Rail engineering company BREL. Demerges Hardy Oil and Gas interests
1991 — Buys Davy Corporation
1992 — Sells BREL stake, Hongkong Land takes 26 per cent stake
1993 — Sir Nigel Broackes steps down
1995 — Fails to take over Northern Electric
1995 — Sells Ritz Hotel in London for £75 million
1996 — Sells Ideal Homes for £170 million
1996 — Begins takeover talks with Kvaerner

"NOT EVERYTHING IN BLACK AND WHITE MAKES SENSE"

GUINNESS

AT 9.20 AND 10.15 TONIGHT ON ITV AND CHANNEL 4

RADIO CHOICE

The return of Quatermass

The Quatermass Memoirs. *Radio 3, 10.05pm.*

Controlled paranoia: an inoculation against real horrors. Straight from the horse's mouth — Professor Quatermass himself, no less — comes an explanation of why BBCtv's scientific wonderman embarked on his world-threatening encounters with alien life forms in the 1950s. Nigel Kneale, the television serials' creator, brings the professor (Andrew Keir) out of retirement to dictate his memoirs to a woman reporter. Kneale parallels the imagined horrors in the Quatermass stories with reminders of what was casting a dark shadow of fear over the real world of the 1950s. There are another four episodes to come. I will be glued to my radio set.

In the Fifties. *Radio 3, 8.35pm.*

There are as many soundly-based specifics as debatable generalisations in this documentary about the teenagers' revolutions in the 1950s. Ronald Pickup reads from the memoirs of Peter Vansittart who taught at a progressive, pupil-led school in Hampstead during the inhibition-shedding decade. Inevitably, grown-ups were caught in the younger generation's assault on the barricades of convention. One mother liked her daughter to call her "old cow". Other parents dismissed as mere self-expression the damage their offspring caused to guests, furniture and animals. Clearly, something was seriously amiss when one Lancashire town had 53 pubs and not a single youth club. **Peter Davalle**

RADIO 1

FM Stereo. **4.00am** Clive Warren **6.30** Chris Evans **9.00** Simon Mayo **12.00** Lisa I'Anson, including **12.30-12.45pm** *Newsbeat* **2.00** Nicky Campbell **4.00** Mark Goodier, incl at **5.30-5.45** Newsbeat **6.15** The Net **6.30** The Mix **7.00** Evening Session **9.00** In Concert. Radiohead and the Cranberries **10.00** Mark Radcliffe **Midnight** Wendy Lloyd

RADIO 2

FM Stereo. **4.00am** Alex Lester **6.00** Sarah Kennedy **7.30** Wogan **9.30** Ken Bruce **11.30** *Sue Cook* **2.00pm** Debbie Thrower **3.30** Ed Stewart **5.05** Paul Heiney **7.00** Hubert Gregg **7.30** Malcolm Laycock with Dance Band Days, and at **8.00** Big Band Era **8.30** Big Band Special **9.00** Humphrey Lyttelton **10.00** Frame It! **10.30** The Jamesons **12.05am** Digby Fairweather **1.00** Steve Madden **3.00-6.00** Alex Lester

RADIO 5 LIVE

5.00am Morning Reports, incl **5.45** Wake Up to Money **6.00** The Breakfast Programme **8.35** The Magazine, incl **10.35** News from Europe; **11.30** News; Food News **12.00** Midday with Mair, incl **12.34pm** Moneycheck, and at **1.15** *Entertainment News* **2.05** Ruscoe on Five **3.45** Entertainment News **4.00** John Inverdale **5.45** Entertainment News **7.00** News Extra **7.35** Across the White Line (3/6) **8.00** Newcastle v Manchester Utd **10.05** News Talk **11.00** Night Extra, **11.15** The Financial World Tonight **12.05am** The Other Side of Midnight **2.05** Up All Night

TALK RADIO

6.00am Sandy Warr **7.00** Simon Bates **10.00** Jonathan King **12.00** Tommy Boyd **2.00pm** Anne Raeburn **4.00** Scott Chisholm **7.00** Sean Bolger **9.00** Moz Dee **10.00** James Whale **1.00-6.00am** Ian Collins

WORLD SERVICE

All times in **GMT. 5.00am** Newsday **5.30** Europe Today **6.00** Newsday **6.30** Europe Today **7.00** World News **7.15** *Off the Shelf Spring Torrents* **7.30** The Vintage Chart Show **8.00** World News **8.10** Words of Faith **8.15** The Greenfield Collection **9.00** News in German **9.15** Anything Goes **9.45** Sports Roundup **10.00** Newsdesk **10.30** BBC English **10.45** Off the Shelf *Spring Torrents* **11.00** Newsdesk **11.30** Omnibus **12.00** News **12.05pm** World Business Report **12.15** Britain Today **12.30** Western Music **1.00** Newshour **2.00** World News **2.05** *Outlook* **2.30** *John Peel* **3.00** News in German **3.15** *Recital* **4.00** News **4.15** The World Today **4.30** News in German **5.00** Europe Today **5.30** World Business Report **5.45** Sport **6.00** Newsdesk **6.30** News in German **7.00** News **7.01** Outlook **7.25** Words of Faith **7.30** Multitrack: Ha Lisi **8.00** Newshour **9.00** News **9.05** Business **9.15** Britain Today **9.30** Omnibus **10.00** Newsdesk **10.30** The World Today **10.45** Sport **11.00** World News **11.10** *Take Five* **11.15** Ed Stewart **11.45** Development 96 **Midnight** Newsdesk **12.30am** Folk Routes **12.45** Britain Today **1.00** News **1.10** Press Review **1.15** World Ranking **1.45** Health **2.00** Newsday **2.30** Airport **3.00** News **3.15** Sport **3.30** John Peel **4.00** Newsdesk **4.30** Europe

CLASSIC FM

4.00am Mark Griffiths **6.00** Nick Bailey **9.00** Humphrey Burton **12.00** Susannah Simons **2.00pm** Concerto **3.00** Jamie Crick **6.00** Newsnight **6.30** Sonata **7.00** Ken Russell's Movie Classics: Screen Lovers (10/13) **8.00** Concert **10.00** Michael Mappin **1.00am** Mel Cooper

VIRGIN RADIO

6.00am Russ 'n' Jono **9.00** Richard Skinner **12.00** Graham Dene **4.00pm** Nicky Horne **7.30** Paul Coyte **10.00** Mark Forrest **2.00-6.00am** Robin Banks

RADIO 3

6.00am ***On Air.*** *Stravinsky (The Fairy's Kiss); Vivaldi (Concerto in A, La Stravaganza); Beethoven (Overture, Leonore No 2);* **8.03** *Lyatoshynsky (March and Pavane, Romeo and Juliet); Massenet (Méditation, Thais)*
9.00 Morning Collection with Paul Gambaccini. Schubert, arr Godowsky (Moment musical No 3 in F minor); Schubert (String Quartet No 6 in D); **9.25** Barber (Cello Concerto); Chaminade (Autrefois)
10.00 Musical Encounters. Janet Baker, *mezzo, sings Gurney* (Sleep); **10.04** Tchaikovsky (Overture, 1812); Saint-Saëns (Piano Concerto No 2 in G minor); Schumann (Frauenliebe und -leben); Vivaldi (Cello Sonata in E flat); **11.18** Trad (Scandinavian chorale tunes); Sallinen (String Quartet No 1); Brahms (Denn es gehet dem Menschen)
12.00 Composers of the Week: Delibes and Massenet. Including Delibes (Overture, Valse, Coppélia; L'Omelette à la Follembuche, excerpts); Massenet (Pastorale et Fugue, Suite No 1)
1.00pm BBC Lunchtime **Concert,** live from St John's, Smith Square, London. Michala Petri, recorder, Lars Hannibal, guitar/lute
2.00 Schools. The Song Tree **2.15** Storybox **2.25** Let's Move **2.45** First Steps in Drama
3.00 The BBC Orchestras. BBC Scottish Symphony Orchestra under Thomas Sanderling *performs Tchaikovsky (Suite No 1 in D)* (r)
3.45 ***Music for Organ,*** played by Jonathan Bielby
4.30 Misterioso. The final programme on the composer and pianist Thelonious Monk
5.00 The Music Machine in Nashville, presented by Sarah Walker
5.15 In Tune. Tchaikovsky (Serenade, Op 42 No 2); **6.03** Mussorgsky (Coronation Scene, Boris Godunov); **6.30** Beethoven (Fantasy in C minor)
7.45 Towards the Millennium, live from the Queen Elizabeth Hall, London. John Wallace, trumpet, Joanna MacGregor, *piano, Guy Barker and Lew* Soloff, jazz trumpets; London Sinfonietta under Markus Stenz perform Nancarrow, arr Mikhashoff (Player Piano Study No 7); Bernd-Alois Zimmermann (Trumpet Concerto, Nobody Knows de Trouble I See); John Cage (Concerto for prepared piano); **8.35 In the Fifties.** See Choice ; **8.55** Thelonious Monk (A selection of works for solo piano); Gil Evans/Miles Davis (Suite, Miles Ahead; The Pan Piper, Solea, Sketches of Spain)
10.05 The Quatermass Memoirs. See Choice
10.25 Sci-Fi Sounds. Featuring excerpts from Bernard Hermann's score for the film, *The Day the Earth Stood Still*
10.40 Five from the Fifties. The *Eagle* comic (2/5)
10.45 Mixing It. Highlights from the first of three *New Aura* concerts from the Conway Hall in London
11.30-12.30am Ensemble. Endellion Quartet (r)

RADIO 4

5.55am Shipping Forecast (LW only) **6.00** News Briefing and weather **6.10** Farming Today **6.25** Prayer for the Day **6.30** Today, incl **6.30, 7.00, 7.30, 8.00, 8.30** News **6.55, 7.55** Weather **7.25, 8.25** Sports News **7.45** Thought for the Day **8.40** Tickle the Public. *Matthew Engel charts 100* years in the history of popular daily newspapers from 1896-1996 (3/6) **8.58** Weather
9.00 News 9.05 Start the Week, presented by Melvyn Bragg and Jane Thynne. With Tony Parsons, John Sessions, Arthur Marwick and Pete Townshend
10.00-10.30 News; Battling with the Past (FM only). Ronald Hutton chairs the history quiz
10.00 Daily Service (LW only)
10.15 This Sceptr'd Isle (LW only)
10.30 ***Woman's Hour,*** introduced by Jenni Murray. Serial: *Seesaw,* by Deborah Moggach (1/12)
11.30 ***Money Box Live:*** **0171-580 4444** from 10am
12.00 News; You and Yours
12.25pm Countrypoint. Music quiz **12.55** Weather
1.00 The World at One
1.40 The Archers (r) **1.55** Shipping Forecast
2.00 News; The Piano, by Jane Campion and Kate Pullinger. Second of a three-part dramatisation by Michelene Wandor. With Stella Gonet
3.00 The Afternoon Shift, with Launa Taylor
4.00 News 4.05 Kaleidoscope. *In National Gallery Week,* Lynne Walker looks at a gallery nominated by listeners; and *there is also a report from the Perth Festival*
4.45 Short Story: Jasonland, by Dawn Lowe-Watson. Read by Robert Glenister
5.00 PM with Chris Lowe and Jackie Hardgrave **5.50** Shipping Forecast **5.55** Weather
6.00 Six O'Clock News 6.30 Just a Minute (r)
7.00 News 7.05 The Archers
7.20 The Food Programme, with Derek Cooper (r)
7.45 The Monday Play: Battle for the Dome. Jean Binnie's drama about the hostile atmosphere surrounding the building of the dome of Florence cathedral in the 15th century. With John Rowe, Robert Glenister, Peter Jeffrey, Bryan Pringle and Crawford Logan (r)
9.15 Uncle Mort's Celtic Fringe. *Seeing Things* by Peter Tinniswood. With Christian Rodska (4/5)
9.30 Kaleidoscope (r) **9.59** Weather
10.00 The World Tonight
10.45 Book at Bedtime: My Autobiography, by Charles Chaplin (1/10) (r)
11.00-11.30 Destinations (FM only). Fifth of a six-part series of irreverent discussions on travel themes (r)
11.00 Education Matters (LW)
11.30-12.00 After Eden (FM only) Drama series by Alison Leonard about a woman priest (4/6) (r)
11.30 Today in Parliament (LW)
12.00 News, incl **12.27am** Weather
12.30 The Late Book: Foreign Parts, by Janice Galloway. Read by Siobhan Redmond (1/7) (r)
12.48 Shipping Forecast **1.00 As World Service**

FREQUENCY GUIDE. **RADIO 1.** FM 97.6-99.8. **RADIO 2.** FM 88.0-90.2. **RADIO 3.** FM 90.2-92.4. **RADIO 4.** FM 92.4-94.6; LW 198; MW 720. **RADIO 5 LIVE.** MW 693, 909. **WORLD SERVICE.** MW 648; LW 198 (12.45-5.55am). **CLASSIC FM.** FM 100-102. **VIRGIN RADIO.** FM 105.8; MW 1197, 1215. **TALK RADIO UK.** MW 1053, 1089.**Television and radio listings compiled by Peter Dear, Gillian Maxey, Rosemary Smith and Susan Thomson**

هكذا من الأصل

A hook(er) on which to hang a second series

REVIEW



Lynne Truss

When Lewis Carroll invented the word "uglification" he had no idea how handy it would be, especially where ITV's **Band of Gold** is concerned. The phenomenal success of Kay Mellor's first series about her Bradford prostitutes derived from the obvious allure of prurience and dramatic suspense, but also from the weekly treat of seeing good-looking actresses made to look like alley cats after two wash-cycles in a Zanussi. Hair and legs all over the place, lipstick lopsided, powder thick, skirt round the bum. Last night, in the first of the new series, Tony Doyle (George, baddie) cruised past Barbara Dickson (Anita, stupid) in his Jag. "Anita, I thought it was you," he called. "Recognised the jacket." It sounds like an insult, but in this context it was the nicest thing he could say.

In television drama, they tend to talk Hollywood these days. "Does it have legs?" they ask. *Band of Gold* was always more than happy to help in this regard, but the question really means "will it run?" and it's still early to say whether the very tightly constructed first series can turn into a continuing saga. Luckily, all the original principals are still on board — Cathy Tyson, Geraldine James, Barbara Dickson and Samantha Morton — and they have all been encouraged to stay up late at night, obviously, and renounce their skincare regimes. But the conclusion of the last series never looked terribly promising as a follow-on. I mean, when prostitutes go straight, especially with a cleaning business, that's usually the end of the sex murders, surely?

You may remember Garrison Keillor's failed cowboy writer (in his story *Your Book Saved My Life, Mister*), who can't help spoiling his plots. His heroes forge through bloody Indian battles, hang from cliffs, survive stampedes, and then all the tension dissipates. They stand in their stirrups and say, "I could go either way and be happy — west, south, you name it. I don't *need* to go west, or anything. You choose." Similarly, lavvies and bleach may be unpleasant, especially in a gritty northern context, but they somehow lack the potential for danger of an anonymous punter with a bondage fetish on a dark night. Only in the final seconds last night did the true unpleasantness start, when George ran his Jag at Anita and left her for dead. As a hook for next week it was desperate, but it worked.

Muriel Spark gave a rare interview to **Bookmark** (Saturday, BBC2), and it was like *crème de la crème* — ie. it was rich and special, but hardly a mouthful. When writers or actors consistently refuse to give interviews, it is usually wise to smell a rat. Either they are boring, or shy, or else they genuinely believe that their life is their work. Spark is the latter. For years she has lived in Italy, removed from the British literary scene. Her autobiography stops at the point when she started writing novels. To the question, "How do you see yourself?" she answered on Saturday: "I don't really see myself at all very much."

In her younger days, she looked great on television — with energetic hair like Jackie O, a big clear forehead, and excellent Edinburgh diction. An archive clip showed her at Haworth in 1961, in a headscarf, talking about her love of churchyards, and the ease with which she communed with the dead. But there is no reason why a great writer should talk interestingly about their own work, and nowadays the deficiency can be easily supplied by David Lodge talking technical, or old acquaintances talking personal. Not that the personal life was explored much: Spark's child, born in Africa, was mentioned only as an infant. Postwar relationships were not mentioned at all.

As a child, Spark said she stared at things, and at people — "just looked and looked" — to "get the essence out of it". As her fans will know, this is a knack she has long perfected, which was why, when a description of bombed houses in *The Girls of Slender Means* (1963) was read aloud by David Lodge, it was unnecessary to show generic archive footage of a scene similar. Excuse the whinny of hobbyhorse here, but this practice always gives me the pip. Instead of listening to the words during such illustrated passages, I just notice how the pictures don't fit.

The weekend's theme of spooked or spooky women was neatly rounded off by **The Sculptress** (Saturday and Sunday, BBC1) — a psycho drama that carved four hours out of one's life for surprisingly little return. Beautifully directed by Stuart Orme, nicely acted by Pauline Quirke and Caroline Goodall, it wasn't about much. It turned out (I think) that Quirke had probably not committed the murders she'd confessed to, and on shaky new evidence she was pardoned and released with improbable ease (this process necessarily glossed over). In investigating Quirke's story for her book, Goodall exposed herself to danger among bikers and psychos, but on the plus side acquired a nice boyfriend who could cook. I didn't understand about the candles.

Finally, in the battle for laughs on Friday nights, BBC2 is doing damn well, with **The Fast Show** and *Fist of Fun* both maturing into extremely funny stuff, without changing anything. Proving that Harry Enfield is not the only person who can do retro Ealing accents, *The Fast Show* has invented an old radio show — *How Queer!* — which is so convincing in its inane catchphrases that it starts to seem quite real. "Where's me washboard?" and "Can *I* be of any assistance?" ought to be things you can say in bus queues, when the mood needs lightening up.

BBC1

6.00am Business Breakfast (12278)
7.00 BBC Breakfast News (Ceefax) (43549)
9.00 Breakfast News Extra (Ceefax) (6222891)
9.20 Can't Cook, Won't Cook (s) (2738487)
9.45 Kilroy (s) (8472742)
10.30 Good Morning with Anne and Nick (s) (19013)
12.00 News (Ceefax), regional news and weather (2516907) **12.05pm Turnabout** (5939549) **12.30 Going for a Song**. *Antiques panel game (s) (31617)*
1.00 One O'Clock News (Ceefax) and weather (46636)
1.30 Regional News and weather (39015159)
1.40 Neighbours (Ceefax) (94150365)
2.00 Pebble Mill with Leslie Thomas and Pam St Clement (s) (8838013)
2.40 Rich Man, Poor Man (7/12) (1542742)
3.30 The Busy World of Richard Scarry (s) (6256617) **3.55 Bodger and Badger** (s) (5393487) **4.10 The Chipmunks** (r) (s) (4081669) **4.35 The Genie from Down Under** (Ceefax) (s) (2222636)
5.00 Newsround (Ceefax) (3071988)
5.10 Blue Peter (Ceefax) (s) (1681636)
5.35 Neighbours (r) (Ceefax) (s) (935362)
6.00 Six O'Clock News (Ceefax) and weather (471)
6.30 Regional News Magazines (723)
7.00 Eureka. Highlights from the last series, presented by Matthew Kelly (Ceefax) (9655)
7.30 Watchdog. Consumer magazine (Ceefax) (s) (907)
8.00 EastEnders. (Ceefax) (s) (5075)
8.30 Goodnight Sweetheart: Let's Get Away from It All. Gary's life is on the move in both time zones as Yvonne sets her heart on a new flat and Phoebe wants to leave the Royal Oak. (Ceefax) (s) (7810)
9.00 Nine O'Clock News (Ceefax), regional news and weather (8520)
9.30 Panorama: Empress on the Rocks. The inside story on what really happened to the Sea Empress. (Ceefax) (341297)
10.10 FILM: A Kiss Before Dying (1991) starring Matt Dillon, Sean Young and Diane Ladd. A woman is devastated by the violent death of her twin sister and, convinced that she has been murdered, starts her own investigation. Directed by James Dearden (Ceefax) (s) (2882452) **WALES: 10.10** A Parent's Guide **10.25** FILM: A Kiss before Dying **11.55** How to be a Little S*d **12.05am** Film 96 with Barry Norman **12.35-2.00** FILM. The Gangster
11.40 Film 96 with Barry Norman. An Anthony Hopkins special. (Ceefax) (s) (366636)
12.10am FILM: The Gangster (1947, b/w) starring Barry Sullivan. A man who has managed to pull himself out of the gutter to become a successful gangster realises his life is empty — he has no friends and has never known happiness. This realisation frightens him more than any physical threat ever has, and he begins to doubt himself. Directed by Gordon Wiles (2636259)
1.35 Weather (2312722)

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BBC2

6.00am Open University: Out of Sight, Out of Mind (9097568) **6.25** Caring for Data (9076075) **6.50** The Present in the Past: Greek Drama (6284433)
7.15 See Hear Breakfast News. (Ceefax and signing) (1186723)
7.30 Stingray (r). (Ceefax) (57742) **8.00 Blue Peter** (r). (Ceefax) (s) (61159) **8.30 Songs of Praise** (r). (Ceefax) (s) (3932988)
9.05 Daytime on Two. Educational programmes. Plus, for children, **10.00-10.25** Playdays (4917655)
2.00 Joshua Jones (r) (83348839)
2.15 FILM: Passport to Terror (1989) starring Lee Remick. A fact-based drama about a woman's dream cruise that turns into a nightmare. Directed by Lou Antonio. (Ceefax) (721556) **3.55 News** (Ceefax), regional news and weather (4490278)
4.00 Today's the Day. History quiz (s) (636)
4.30 Ready, Steady, Cook (s) (520)
5.00 Esther The pros and cons of childhood fame (s) (7433)
5.30 The Village. Real-life dramas in a Hampshire village (491623)
5.55 Turning Points. Jan Francis visits the Royal Opera House, where she decided to leave the Royal Ballet and become an actress (839758)
6.00 Space Precinct: Deathwatch. The second of a two-part science-fiction police drama. (Ceefax) (s) (654510)
6.45 The Big Trip. The final leg of the eight-part travel series. (Ceefax) (s) (207742)



Muriel Gray takes aim (7.30pm)

7.30 [redacted] Under Exposed: Our Hidden Photos. (Ceefax) (s) (549)
8.00 [redacted] Horizon: Death By Design. (Ceefax) (s) (446029)
8.50 [redacted] A Bad Time to Be a Man: The Myth of Male Power. (Ceefax) (s) (497181)
9.00 Our Friends in the North. The penultimate episode following 30 years in the lives of four Geordie friends. (Ceefax) (s) (1522100)
10.15 Under Exposed: Collections. Muriel Gray looks at the collections of photographs in the Public Record Office in Kew, and at the Hulton Deutsch in London. (Ceefax) (254384)
10.30 Newsnight with Jeremy Paxman. (Ceefax) (106471)
11.15 The Brains Trust. Mary Ann Sieghart of *The Times* is joined by the scientist Richard Dawkins, the philosophers Nancy Cartwright and Paul Helm and the historian Theodore Zeldin. Last in the series (s) (249182)
11.55 Weather (960636)
12.00 Midnight Hour. Political chat (s) (23259)
12.30am-6.00 The Learning Zone

CHOICE

Under Exposed
BBC2, 7.30pm

Photographs do not have the status in Britain that they enjoy elsewhere, which is why so much of our photographic heritage is being lost to the United States. This series is partly a plea to take photographs more seriously and partly an invitation to viewers to look out their collections. The most notable finds will be shown on future programmes. To whet the appetite, the presenter Muriel Gray calls on the Royal Photographic Society in Bath for a taste of the work of Victorians such as Julia Margaret Cameron and Roger Fenton. We also hear from unusual private collectors, such as Rosemary Wheeler who has 4,000 photos of weddings and Stephen Bull with his amazing pictorial record of family holidays at Butlins.

Horizon: Death By Design
BBC2, 8.00pm

Not many *Horizon* films include clips from a Harold Lloyd comedy and a Busby Berkeley dance routine, but if the presentation is elaborate, not to say idiosyncratic, the central point is simple. *Death By Design* is about cells and the recent trend in biology to think of them not so much in terms of life and growth but of death. But so-called cell death is a positive thing and the programme uses everyday analogies to make this clear. One is the very process of making a television documentary, during which the vast majority of the footage shot ends up on the cutting-room floor. In a similar way, biology works by producing thousands of cells and picking the few that work. If this sounds abstract, the results of cell death going wrong are tangible enough. Cancer, for instance, is caused by an excess of cells and Aids by a loss of them.

A Bad Time to be a Man: The Myth of Male Power
BBC2, 8.50pm

The proposition behind this series of personal opinions is that despite what feminists claim, men are by no means the privileged sex. The project is launched with a challenging contribution from an American writer, Warren Farrell. He fills his allotted ten minutes with statistics designed to demolish common "myths". One is that men earn more than women for doing the same work. Another is that women are more likely to be victims of violence. A third is that the male-dominated medical community neglects women's health. Farrell points out that men have the most dangerous jobs, constitute 85 per cent of street homeless and 75 per cent of murder victims, and die, on average, seven years sooner. He takes his data from the United States but claims it is applicable here. Let the arguments begin.

Eleven Men Against Eleven
Channel 4, 9.00pm

Andy Hamilton's football comedy gets repeated less than a year after its first showing, but there should be few complaints. The only caveat is that Hamilton's desire for topicality, echoing his scripts for *Drop the Dead Donkey*, may make the jokes slightly less fresh the second time around. Tearing his material from the headlines, Hamilton has a manager sacked for taking bungs, a goalkeeper bribed to throw matches, a Cantona-style assault and far-right hooligans stirring up crowd trouble. The script is rich in other quips and references that perhaps only the more committed football buffs will pick up. They are pressed into service for the tale of a corrupt club chairman (Timothy West) fighting to save his team from relegation and a new manager (James Bolam) who harks back to more innocent days. **Peter Waymark**

ITV

6.00am GMTV (2550948)
9.25 Win, Lose or Draw (s) (2640278)
9.55 Regional News (Teletext) (4994704)
10.00 The Time . . . the Place (s) (8106617)
10.35 This Morning (98158891)
12.20pm Regional News (Teletext) (2505891)
12.30 News and weather (Teletext) (7462758)
12.55 Shortland Street (s) (7374549) **1.25 Coronation Street** (r) (Teletext) (4328100) **2.00 Home and Away** (Teletext) (s) (30231433) **2.25 Chain Letters** (Teletext) (s) (30250568)
2.50 Cooking at the Academy (4846365)
3.20 News (Teletext) (1394623)
3.25 Regional News (Teletext) (2744164)
3.30 Rainbow Days (s) (5212568) **3.40 Tots TV** (s) (2210723) **3.50 Budgie the Little Helicopter** (5216384) **4.05 Scooby Doo** (4150636) **4.15 Harry's Mad** (Teletext) (s) (990181) **4.45 Art Attack** (Teletext) (s) (2213988)
5.10 The List (9118839)
5.40 News and weather (Teletext) (558365)
6.00 Home and Away (r) (Teletext) (s) (101487)
6.25 HTV News (Teletext) (191520)
6.45 Sportsweek (Teletext) (317902)



Guest spot for Eternal (7.00pm)

7.00 Talking Telephone Numbers, presented by Phillip Schofield and Emma Forbes. With pop group Eternal (s) (4723)
7.30 Coronation Street. Liz arrives for work with a black eye (Teletext) (425)
8.00 World in Action. A disturbing look at the state of patient care at St George's Hospital, Tooting (Teletext) (s) (3471)
8.30 Kavanagh QC. Kavanagh is supposed to nail a suspected drugs dealer but learns it does not always pay to believe his own witnesses (Teletext) (97592)
10.00 News at Ten and weather (Teletext) (22471)
10.30 Regional News (Teletext) (398075)
10.40 FILM: Body Heat (1981). Kathleen Turner makes a thrilling film debut as a socialite who ensares a naive young lawyer, William Hurt. The lovers plot the murder of her husband, Ted Danson, for the insurance money. Directed by Lawrence Kasdan (71222926)
12.45 Bushell on the Box (s) (30143)
1.15 Football Extra (5464143)
2.00 Customs Classified (6422563)
2.45 Jones and Jury (s) (5471389)
3.05 FILM: Tiger by the Tail (1955) starring Larry Parks, Constance Smith and Lisa Daniely. An American finds himself embroiled in a counterfeit racket while working in London. Directed by John Gilling (4757768)
4.30 The Time . . . the Place (r) (s) (41230)
5.00 An Invitation to Remember (r) (93105)
5.30 Morning News (11414)

As HTV WEST except:
5.10pm-5.40 Ready Money (9118839)
6.25-7.00 Wales Tonight (599075)

WESTCOUNTRY

As HTV West except:
12.55 Coronation Street (7374549)
1.25-1.55 Chain Letters (79753592)
1.55 Home and Away (42731075)
2.25 The West at Work (30234520)
2.55-3.20 A Country Practice. Medical drama series set in the Australian outback (3866487)
5.10-5.40 Home and Away (9118839)
6.00-7.00 Westcountry Live (34704)

CENTRAL

As HTV West except:
12.55 Home and Away (7374549)
1.25 Chain Letters (79753592)
1.55 A Country Practice (94164568)
2.20-3.20 Blue Heelers (7242162)
5.10-5.40 Shortland Street. New Zealand soap set in and around a suburban medical centre (9118839)
6.25-7.00 Central News (599075)
12.45am Football Extra. Gabriel Clarke introduces action from all three divisions of the Endsleigh League (3738969)
2.05 Customs Classified (6421834)
2.50 Film: Conspiracy in Teheran (1947, b/w). Second World War espionage drama starring Derek Farr, Marta Labarr and Manning Whiley. Directed by William Freshman (9586940)
4.20 Jobfinder (6944747)
5.20 Asian Eye (8430105)

MERIDIAN

As HTV West except:
12.55pm Chain Letters. Word game with cash prizes (7374549)
1.25 Home and Away (79753592)
1.55 A Country Practice (42731075)
2.25-3.20 Blue Heelers. Rural Australian police drama series (4560520)
5.10 Home and Away (9118839)
5.37-5.40 Three Minutes (733520)
6.00 Meridian Tonight (839)
6.30-7.00 Country Ways (891)
5.00am Freescreen (93105)

S4C

Starts: **6.35 Think Tank** (6298636) **7.00 The Big Breakfast** (32487) **9.00 Fifteen to One** (60920) **9.30 Ysgollion: Geography** (9572345) **9.45 Ffenestri** (9673029) **10.00 Sang Di Fang** (4556015) **10.15 Learn Sign Language** (4930758) **10.20 Place and People** (2220821) **10.40 The English Programme** (9434568) **11.05 Encyclopaedia Galactica** (6535520) **11.15 The Mix** (6205636) **11.30 Penawdau** (4894013) **11.45 Living Technology** (4899568) **12.00 Right to Reply** (29384) **12.30pm Camberwick Green** (57655) **1.00 Slot Melthrin** (5673097) **1.35 Film: Sons and Lovers** (77950704) **3.30 Wired World** (297) **4.00 Backdate** (704) **4.30 Gardens Without Borders** (988) **5.00 5 Pump: Rownd a Rownd** (1042452) **5.15 5 Pump: Ffeil** (9287487) **5.20 5 Pump: Tochabant** (9195452) **5.30 Countdown** (568) **6.00 Newyddion** (567029) **6.15 Heno** (230810) **7.00 Pobol Y Cwm** (316297) **7.25 Y Byd Ar Bedwar** (627742) **8.00 Hafod Henri** (1013) **8.30 Newyddion** (1920) **9.00 Auf Wiedersehen, Pet** (2029) **10.00 Sgorio** (1996742) **11.05 Roseanne** (754617) **11.35 NYPD Blue** (430100) **12.30am Seasiders** (94259)

6.35am Think Tank (r). (Teletext) (s) (6298636)
7.00 The Big Breakfast (32487)
9.00 Fifteen to One (r). (Teletext) (s) (60920)
9.30 Schools: *Geography* **9.45** Book Box **10.00 Stage Two Science 10.15** Learn Sign Language **10.20** Place and People **10.40** The English Programme **11.05** Encyclopaedia Galactica **11.15** The Mix **11.30** Rat-a-Tat-Tat **11.45** Living with Technology (924891)
12.00 Right to Reply (r). (Teletext) (s) (29384)
12.30pm Sesame Street. The guests are Take 6 (s) (31810) **1.30 Wowser** (42754926)
1.55 Those British Faces. Friends and colleagues pay tribute to the late Jack Hawkins (r). (Teletext) (42739617)
2.25 FILM: Buchanan Rides Alone (1958, b/w) starring Randolph Scott. A western adventure directed by Budd Boetticher (677758)
4.00 Backdate. (Teletext) (s) (704)
4.30 Countdown. (Teletext) (s) (988)
5.00 Keepers of the Kingdom: Secret World of Bats. A wildlife documentary, filmed by Dieter Plage on five continents (r). (Teletext) (s) (1636)
6.00 The Cosby Show (r). (Teletext) (181)
6.30 Hollyoaks. Phil Redmond's teen soap. (Teletext) (s) (433)
7.00 Channel 4 News. (Teletext) (718433)
7.55 The Slot (631278)
8.00 Hooked. Carol, Susanna and Linda are best friends — until a fly is cast in competition (r). (Teletext) (s) (1013)
8.30 Classic Ships. The last in the series features the fast-movers of the future. (Teletext) (s) (1920)



Team leader James Bolam (9.00pm)

9.00 [redacted] Eleven Men Against Eleven (r). (Teletext) (s) (1052704)
10.25 FILM: Scorchers (1991) starring Emily Lloyd, James Wilder and Jennifer Tilly. A risque melodrama set during one night in a small Louisiana bayou town. With Faye Dunaway, Denholm Elliott, James Earl Jones and Leland Crooke. Directed by David Beaird. (Teletext) (s) (843636)
12.00 FILM: Ten Seconds to Hell (1959, b/w) starring Jack Palance, Jeff Chandler and Martine Carol. A drama set in post-Second World War Berlin, about six German soldiers who return from a British prisoner-of-war camp to form a bomb-disposal squad, with the intention of pooling half their pay and the survivor or survivors sharing the money after a period of three months. Directed by Robert Aldrich (465766)
1.45am The Other Americas: Future Without Bullets. The last in the series centres on the process that led to peace negotiations in El Salvador (r) (s) (66108766)
4.00-5.00 Schools: Eureka! (78230)

SATELLITE

● **For more comprehensive listings of satellite and cable channels, see the Vision supplement, published Saturday**

SKY ONE

7.00am Bread Egg and Soldiers (44075) **8.30** Press Your Luck (5495742) **8.50** Love Connection (4610029) **9.20** Court TV (6703891) **9.50** The Oprah Winfrey Show (12410100) **10.40** Jeopardy! (6507810) **11.10** Sally Jessy Raphael (2342181) **12.00** Beechy (963681) **1.00pm** Hotel (72988) **2.00** Geraldo (43075) **3.00** Court TV (3902) **3.30** The Oprah Winfrey Show (5310988) **4.15** Unsolved Mysteries (12551811) **5.00** Star Trek: The Next Generation (4742) **6.00** The Simpsons (8433) **6.30** Jeopardy! (2013) **7.00** LAPD (54771) **7.30** M*A*S*H (8297) **8.00** Central Park West (35471) **9.00** Police Rescue (22907) **10.00** Star Trek: The Next Generation (25084) **11.00** Melrose Place (72029) **12.00** Late Show with David Letterman (7947209) **12.45am** The Untouchables (49558872) **1.30** In Living Color (54871) **2.00-6.00** Hit Mix Long Play (1623389)

SKY NEWS

News on the hour **6.00am** Sunrise (81691682) **9.30** The Book Show (4850617) **10.10** CBS 60 Minutes (63780139) **11.00** World News and Business (9268384) **1.30pm** CBS News (22297) **2.30** Parliament Live (86461) **3.30** Parliament Live (24611) **4.00** News and Business (89704) **5.00** Live at Five (94617) **6.30** Tonight with Adam Boulton (11810) **7.30** Sportsline (7550029) **8.10** CBS 60 Minutes (9088839) **9.00** World News and Business (673520) **11.30** CBS News (93839) **12.30am** ABC News (12834) **1.30** Tonight with Adam Boulton Replay (80117471) **2.10** CBS 60 Minutes (22921051) **3.30** Parliament (19693) **4.30** CBS News (91105) **5.30-6.00** ABC News (53114)

SKY MOVIES

6.00am Angels with Dirty Faces (1938) (30348) **8.00 The Big Parade of Comedy** (1964) (676551) **10.00 Moment of Truth: To Walk Again** (1994) (885449) **12.00 Norma Rae** (1979) (5/278) **2.00pm Fatso** (1980) (16346) **4.00 Butch and Sundance: The Early Days** (1979) (6246) **6.00 Moment of Truth: To Walk Again** (1994) (912971) **7.30 Close-Up: The Hudsucker Proxy** (3365) **8.00 Hard Evidence** (1994) (316551) **10.00 Romeo is Bleeding** (1993) (670617) **11.50 Bitter Harvest** (1993) (232891) **1.30am Foreign Body** (1986) (869414) **3.20-5.20 Nightmare City** (1987) (12309853)

SKY MOVIES GOLD

4.00pm Waterloo Bridge (1940) (8988) **6.00 Flying Down to Rio** (1933) (42592) **8.00 House of Games** (1987) (13297) **10.00 The Omen** (1976) (585075) **11.55 The Lovers!** (1972) (818094) **1.25-3.25am The Milky Way** (1936) (156327)

THE MOVIE CHANNEL

6.00am The Black Rose (1950) (38988) **8.00 Connecticut Yankee** (65297) **10.00 Who Done It?** (1942) (79891) **12.00 Eureka Stockade** (1949) (486520) **2.00pm Captain January** (1936) (14988) **4.00 Connecticut Yankee** (4988) **6.00 The Big Game** (1995) (27452) **8.00 Black Fox** (1994) (38297) **10.00 Beverly Hills Cop III** (1993) (327013) **11.55 Beyond Suspicion** (1993) (239704) **1.35am 29th Street** (1991) (649747) **3.15-5.15 The Thing Called Love** (1993) (61312211)

THE DISNEY CHANNEL

Sky Movies Gold takes over from 10pm to 4am.
6.00am Umbrella Tree (70685181) **6.30** Fraggle Rock (60647655) **7.00** Winnie the Pooh (53261384) **7.30** Ducktales (53240891) **8.00** Chip 'n' Dale (91192723) **8.30** The Adventures in Wonderland (91191094) **9.00** Walt Disney Presents (70774029) **10.00** Under the Umbrella Tree (60638907) **10.30** Fraggle Rock (91284758) **11.00** Muppet Babies (54314881) **11.30** Welcome to Pooh Corner (54315520) **12.00** Quack Attack (91195810) **12.30pm** Dumbo's Circus (34971094) **1.00** The Adventures in Wonderland (53260655) **1.30** FILM Having Wonderful Time (62488704) **2.40** Entertainment Special: Cary Grant — A Celebration (24934704) **3.30** Winnie the Pooh (88350471) **4.00** Quack Attack (88340279) **4.30** Ducktales (88352162) **5.00** Chip 'n' Dale (20885384) **5.30** Danger Bay (88358742) **6.00** Tarzan (88356655) **6.30** Dinosaurs (88347907) **7.00** Boy Meets World (20866520) **7.30** FILM Diamonds on Wheels (66820181) **9.00-10.00** Entertainment Special: Anthony Quinn (37099991)

EUROSPORT

7.30am Alpine Skiing (95568) **8.30** Ski Jumping (58723) **10.00** Cross-country Skiing (99384) **11.00** Boxing (19520) **12.00** Motorsports (59162) **1.00pm** Indycar (13433) **2.30** Trickshot (43439) **3.30** Tennis (3357425) **4.55** News **5.00** Live Cross-Country Skiing (85365) **6.30** Football (889433) **6.55** News (866146) **7.00** Speedworld (74029) **9.00** Formula 1 (159617) **9.50** News (708655) **10.00** Football (56988) **11.00** Eurogolf Magazine (90013) **12.00-12.30am** All Sports (92327)

SKY SPORTS

6.00am Cricket World Cup: Australia v West Indies (5382029) **11.30** World of Speed and Beauty (44655) **12.00** Aerobics Oz Style (24988) **12.30pm** Football Special (543075) **3.00** Powerboat World (6988) **3.30** Rebel Sports (7549) **4.00** Cricket World Cup (5984) **6.00** Sports Centre (6433) **6.30** Tartan Extra (5933) **7.00** Football: Newcastle Utd v Manchester Utd (12591100) **10.15** Sports Centre (412346) **10.30** Cricket World Cup Highlights (22452) **12.30am** Monday Night Football (47650) **2.30** Tartan Extra (79747) **3.45** Cricket World Cup: Holland v South Africa (75317360)

SKY SPORTS GOLD

10.00pm Golden Arrows: Phil Taylor v Mike Gregory 1992 (2880723) **10.30** Bobby Charlton's Football Scrapbook (2416013) **12.00-1.00am** Classic Grand Nationals (8175696)

THE CHRISTIAN CHANNEL

4.00am Living Word **5.00** Kenneth Copeland **5.30** Kidz TV **5.45** General Entertainment **6.15** Uli Ekman **6.45-7.00** Music Television

SKY SOAP

7.00am Guiding Light (5447636) **7.55** As the World Turns (6343569) **8.50** Peyton Place (6693617) **9.20** Days of Our Lives (7755636) **10.10-11.00** Another World

SKY TRAVEL

11.00am Globetrotter (4776810) **11.30** Australia from the Outside Looking In (4131094) **12.30pm** The Restaurant Show (9203810) **1.00** Getaway (1371897) **1.30** Great Escapes (9231181) **2.00** Trailside (4776549) **2.30** On Top of the World (2745164) **3.00** Globetrotter (4788384) **3.30** Around the World in 30 Minutes (7519346) **3.55-4.00** Holiday Shop (46361384)

THE HISTORY CHANNEL

4.00pm Swastika Over British Soil (4767162) **5.00** The Red Empire (4779636) **6.00-7.00** Biography Nostradamus (9320029)

THE SCI-FI CHANNEL

7.00am Mysteries Miracles (4770366) **7.30** Ray Bradbury Theatre (1290079) **8.00-10.00** FILM Jack the Giant Killer (3808452) **1.00am** Mysteries Miracles (3734389) **1.30** Ray Bradbury (2681308) **2.00-4.00** FILM: Night of the Living Dead (2263037)

TLC

9.00am The Joy of Painting (7866433) **9.30** Gardeners' Diary (2182075) **10.00** Two's Country (3226297) **10.30** Our House (7662617) **11.00** The Painted House (2212162) **11.30** Running Repairs (2213891) **12.00** Julia Child (7686287) **12.30pm** The Frugal Gourmet (2196991) **1.00** You Can Cook (3834542) **1.30** Furniture to Go (2195162) **2.00** Dogs with Dunbar (4012907) **2.30** Gardens Without Borders Special (6497758) **3.00** Two's Country (4024742) **3.30-4.00** This Old House (6386075)

UK GOLD

7.00am Angels (3608079) **7.30** Neighbours (4153184) **8.00** Sons and Daughters (7685568) **8.30** EastEnders (7684839) **9.00** The Bill (7688891) **9.30** The Sullivans (2194433) **10.00** Secret Army (8753128) **11.00** Bullseye (2214520) **11.30** Odd One Out (2222549) **12.00** Sons and Daughters (7688655) **12.30pm** Neighbours (2105549) **1.00** EastEnders (8553920) **1.30** Sykes (1442742) **2.10** Man About the House (1143520) **2.50** Three Up, Two Down (7785346) **3.30** The Bill (6398433) **4.00** Casualty (2238100) **5.00** Every Second Counts (3890758) **5.45** 'Allo 'Allo (1920075) **6.25** EastEnders (8854988) **7.00** The Two Ronnies (9487348) **8.00** Bullseye (4107029) **8.30** Man About the House (4013636) **9.00** Casualty (9589758) **10.00** The Bill (1906452) **10.35** The Best of Top of the Pops (8889278) **11.15** Widows (8675433) **12.15am** FILM: Baby Face Morgan (8161105) **1.15** Bless This House (5834124) **1.45** Shopping at Night

TCC

6.00am Amazing Live Sea Monkeys (52346) **6.30** Pugwall's Summer (70276) **7.00** Ready or Not (78015) **7.30** California Dreams (14100) **8.00** Sweet Valley High (81297) **8.30** Tiny TCC (29683297) **12.35pm** Tiny TCC **2.30** Jim Henson's Animal Show (7988) **3.00** Oscar's Orchestra (7966) **3.30** The New Pink Panther Show (2433) **4.00** California Dreams (1568) **4.30-5.00** Sweet Valley High (1592)

NICKELODEON

6.00am Henry's Cat (4905433) **6.15** Blue (288723) **6.45** Tourbin Tex (8274452) **7.00** Barfin' (9151043) **7.05** Grimmy (4214520) **7.45** Rugrats/Doug (7132297) **9.00** Alvin and the Chipmunks (35094) **9.30** Pee-Wee (72013) **10.00** Banana Sandwich (15758) **11.00** Children's BBC on Nickelodeon (22094) **12.00** Magic School Bus (28756) **12.30pm** Grimmy (58029) **1.00** Global Guts (26810) **1.30** Visionaries (75100) **2.00** Dungeons and Dragons (8723) **2.30** Galaxy High School (3346) **3.00** The Littlest Pet Shop (6618) **3.30** Mighty Max (8891) **4.00** Santa Bugito (7926) **4.30** Rugrats and Doug (6810) **5.00** Sister Sister (9075) **5.30** Mirror Mirror (7162) **6.00** Ren and Stimpy (4075) **6.30-7.00** Are You Afraid of the Dark? (8655)

DISCOVERY

4.00pm Time Travellers (5308810) **4.30** Fire (6904094) **5.00** Treasure Hunters (4109487) **5.30** Terra X (6395346) **6.00** Voyager (8498487) **6.30** Beyond 2000 (8164948) **7.30** Arthur C. Clarke's Mysterious World (6305723) **8.00** Invention (4026471) **8.30** Wonders of Weather (4011278) **9.00** Deep Probe Expeditions (9407100) **10.00** Classic Wheels (9680487) **11.00-12.00** Disaster! Killer Quake (9103668)

BRAVO

12.00 FILM: *The Slime People* (3765810) **1.30pm** Death Valley Days (2199988) **2.00** The Saint (3214452) **3.00** Danger Man (2211433) **4.00** FILM: The Night of the Hunter (4022384) **6.00** The Adventures of Robin Hood (8312013) **6.30** The Time Tunnel (4764182) **7.30** The Green Hornet (6309549) **8.00** The Saint (9481162) **9.00** Starsky and Hutch (9401926) **10.00-12.00** FILM: The Nightcomers (2210704)

PARAMOUNT

7.00am Benson (9839) **7.30** Family Ties (4839) **8.00** Entertainment Tonight (7487) **8.30** Wings (7094) **9.00** Soap (21704) **9.30** Laverne and Shirley (63365) **10.00** Entertainment Tonight (52162) **11.00** Kids in the Hall (33549) **11.30** Saturday Night Live (39656) **12.30pm** The Odd Couple (58495) **1.00** Wings (22740) **1.30** Soap (20389) **2.00** Laverne and Shirley (81582) **2.30** Entertainment Tonight (77389) **3.00** The Vacant Lot (94476) **3.30-4.00** Kids in the Hall (91969)

UK LIVING

6.00am Agony Hour (9808838) **7.00** Kilroy (1300297) **8.00** Esther (8781471) **8.30** Signs of the Times (8780742) **9.00** Span on a Plate (9257278) **9.35** Kate and Allie (5211452) **10.05** The Jerry Springer Show (6844452) **11.00** The Young and the Restless (8428181) **11.55** Brookside (8380618) **12.30pm** Dangerous Women (7198742) **1.25** Crosswits (7598723) **2.00** Agony Hour (5815278) **3.00** Live at Three (4242723) **4.00** Intoxication UK (4622988) **4.30** Crosswits (1465015) **5.05** Lingo (93665278) **5.30** Lucky Ladders (4635452) **6.00** Bewitched (4832365) **6.30** Brookside (6274665) **7.05** Food and Drink (9752907) **7.40** The Joker's Wild (4711297) **8.05** The Young and the Restless (1969433) **9.00** FILM: Endless Love (25163907) **11.15** Sex Lies (3583810) **11.45-12.00** Entertainment Now! (6044568)

FAMILY CHANNEL

5.00pm Escape from Jupiter (5891) **5.30** Tintin (281191) **5.55** Batman (430723) **6.30** Catchphrase (2297) **7.00** Trivial Pursuit (5655) **7.30** The Fall Guy (98181) **8.30** Only When I Laugh (3810) **9.00** Stay Lucky (95891) **10.00** Treasure Hunt (42538) **11.00** Cats Eyes (11013) **12.00** The Fall Guy (15389) **1.00pm** Batman (38834) **1.30** GP (68563) **2.00** Big Brother Jake (34696) **2.30** African Skies (13105) **3.00** GP (58696) **3.30** Big Brother Jake (37785) **4.00** African Skies (18650) **4.30-5.00** Escape from Jupiter (59327)

MTV

7.30am First Look (96758) **8.00** Morning Mix Featuring Cinemabc (437100) **11.00** US Top 20 Countdown (26538) **12.00** Greatest Hits (93520) **1.00pm** Music Non-Stop (771181) **3.00** Video Juke Box (64487) **4.00** Hanging Out (6520) **8.00** Dial MTV (6425) **6.30** Road Rules (4655) **7.00** Hit List UK (97487) **9.00** Evening Mix (76278) **9.30** Amour (16923) **10.30** The Maxx (69891) **11.00** Yo! Raps (52520) **1.00am** Night Videos (3949327)

VH-1

7.00am Power Breakfast (1

SWITCHED ON 37

CAMPAIGN TO SELL BRITISH ENERGY BEGINS IN EARNEST

BUSINESS

STUNTED SHOOTS 38

GRAHAM SEARJEANT ON WAYS TO TURN GREEN INTO GOLD

MONDAY MARCH 4 1996

BUSINESS EDITOR LINDSAY COOK

MoD team to urge entry to European defence pact

By Ross Tieman
Industrial Correspondent

THE most senior procurement committee of the Ministry of Defence is today expected to recommend that Britain joins France and Germany in a three-nation armoured vehicle programme, paving the way for Britain to join the nascent European Armaments Agency.

Membership of the agency would pave the way for wide-ranging collaboration in weapons design, development and procurement, and is expected to trigger a wave of mergers and collaboration deals among European arms companies.

The recommendation by the Equipment Advisory Committee comes after a meeting on Friday between James Arbuthnot, the Procurement Minister, and Henri Conze, the French procurement agency chief.

Volker Rühe, Germany's Defence Minister, has made British participation in the Multi-Role Armoured Vehicle (MRAV) project for a "battlefield taxi" into an entry test for membership of the Franco-German procurement agency established earlier this year. The agency is designed to achieve economies by sharing weapon development costs and increasing production runs.

Herr Rühe had earlier given Britain until the end of February to sign up to the MRAV project, insisting that Britain must accept a Franco-German design with many components made in French and German factories. That would have raised the cost, and made it hard for British companies to win work on a 3,000-vehicle project costing the three governments up to £3 billion.

However, M Conze is understood to have told Mr Arbuthnot that, as part of its procurement review, published 12 days ago, France now wants a lighter, simpler vehicle.

Herr Rühe has also softened his stance, telling the MoD that he is willing to proceed on the basis of looser specification. However, it remains unclear how France — with only one, state-owned armoured vehicle maker, Giat — will accommodate British demands for the project to go to competitive tender.

The speed with which a European solution has moved back up the agenda has astonished industry bosses. One said: "Only a week ago, it was going to be very touch and go. There were strong camps within the MoD in favour of a European solution, and going it alone."

However, the French need for a lighter vehicle suits Britain well. The MoD wants to buy 1,000 wheeled MRAVs for use behind the front line. It also wants 1,000 more heavily armoured, tracked combat vehicles. Joining the European programme will avoid the need for a compromise design to fulfil both roles.

Vickers, builder of the Challenger 2 tank, has already formed an alliance with the German tank-builder Thyssen-Henschel to work on MRAV and follow-on projects if Britain joins the Euro-agency. It has also held talks with Giat.

Alvis is understood to have made contact with MAK, a second German armoured vehicle manufacturer. GKN, builder of the Warrior personnel carrier, and Westland helicopters, is believed to have lobbied Michael Portillo, Defence Secretary, for an all-British solution, but may link with Krauss-Maffei, builder of Germany's Leopard tank, if MRAV is put out to competitive tender.

City bets on a cut in the base rate

By Janet Bush
Economics Correspondent

THE City is betting heavily on another quarter-point cut in base rates after the meeting on Thursday between Kenneth Clarke, the Chancellor, and Eddie George, Governor of the Bank of England.

The gilt-edged and sterling money markets rallied sharply on Friday after the latest purchasing managers' survey showed that manufacturing industry has been stagnant for six months and that prices had fallen to their lowest level for four years. Sterling futures are already discounting another quarter point off base rates to 6 per cent and a growing number of brokers are now looking for subsequent cuts, perhaps to as low as 5 per cent.

Roger Bootle and his team at HSBC Markets today forecast a near-perfect combination of 3.5 per cent growth next year and 2 per cent inflation. However, Mr Bootle believes that this outcome is heavily dependent on further cuts in interest rates and forecasts that they will fall to 5 per cent by the end of this year. He said: "Interest rates will make all the difference. If they go up this year, or if the general expectation develops that they will go up, then the consumer upturn could be scuppered."

Since the last monetary meeting, the evidence on inflation has been unambiguously good with producer input and output price inflation easing back sharply, retail prices falling below 3 per cent and the Confederation of British Industry's price expectations survey dropping sharply.

The international background is also more favourable with cuts in interest rates expected in America, Germany and France, possibly this month.

☐ British supermarket food prices are forecast to rise by 4 per cent on average this year by Mark Pragnell, economist at the Centre for Economics and Business Research. He argues that heavy price discounting has not generated identifiable gains in total sales and damaged profitability over the past three years. He said: "Food retailers are starting to realise that their across-the-board price cuts have been bad for their business. As a result, we are now seeing much more targeted discounting and greater focus on other forms of marketing."

Economic outlook, page 35

Lehman Brothers fined

A LEADING City watchdog is expected to announce today that it has fined Lehman Brothers, the US investment bank, £80,000 plus undisclosed costs over dealings it had with the private companies of the late Robert Maxwell (Robert Miller writes).

The bank has already been part of a global settlement with the Maxwell pension funds in a separate deal.

The Securities and Futures Authority (SFA), which polices brokers and futures dealers, is believed to have found the bank guilty of breaching rules laid down by the Securities and Investments Board, the chief City watchdog, about keeping proper records and supervising staff adequately.

Disciplinary proceedings against Lehman Brothers were concluded in December. It is believed, however, that the delay was to ensure no clash between the SFA fine and the recent completion of the criminal trial of affairs relating to the Maxwell group of companies.

A spokesman for Lehman Brothers said yesterday: "The notice will make it clear we were not wrong to enter into these transactions [and] that Lehman Brothers did not know or have reason to know that Maxwell was raising money for his private companies and the SFA do not allege that Lehman Brothers caused any of the losses to the pension funds."

DTI looks into aid for firms that failed

By Robert Miller

TENS of millions of pounds of taxpayers' money has been poured into companies and projects in the South West of England that have subsequently gone into receivership.

The scale of the losses has so alarmed the Department of Trade and Industry (DTI) that a full-scale investigation is now in progress.

Disciplinary action is expected to be taken against a number of DTI officials in the South West region.

The DTI has compiled a secret report, understood to be nearly 150 pages long. It outlines how individual companies applied for — and often received — hundreds of thousands of pounds worth of regional grants and loan guarantees to help to create jobs in an area of high unemployment.

Additional funding was also provided by local authorities and the Department of the Environment, often in the form of rent-free premises and a period of grace on business rates.

Four companies are specifically named in the DTI report: Character Ceramics, Pan Atlantia, Porthcurno Management and South West Farm Processors. Pan Atlantia (UK) plc, for example, received £22,000 in 1993 and was dissolved in January this year.

The companies at the centre of the DTI inquiry went into receivership, in many instances shortly after receiving the funds. Hundreds of staff lost their jobs and redundancy benefits and suppliers and consultants were forced out of business because of unpaid bills. The assets of some companies, many of them unnamed in the report, were allegedly transferred into other new-formed companies.

Other companies to receive grants, only to later collapse include Moderntask, given £78,228, which failed in May 1993. Thimbles, a business undertaking similar work, was incorporated in March 1994 at the same address and awarded £22,000 in 1993-94. At least one of the Moderntask directors later became a Thimbles director.

Other South West companies involved in the asset transfer chain that have subsequently failed include Ivens Electronics, MGC Technical Services, Avocet (UK) Ltd, Ridgewood Holdings and Ridgewood Industries.

The Serious Fraud Office is also conducting its own inquiry into alleged abuses of DTI grants in a joint operation with Devon and Cornwall police. The SFO investigation, codenamed Gale, was launched last autumn, initially to investigate the collapse of Rom Data, a failed West Country computer firm, that received £850,000 in grants in spite of the fact that one of its directors, John Dawson, was a discharged bankrupt.

After preliminary inquiries, the scope of Operation Gale appears to have been extended to look at other companies. Former Rom Data staff have been questioned by police, as has Mr Dawson and his wife, Elizabeth, at their home in Cork. Detective Inspector Steven Harrison, the officer in charge of Gale, said: "I cannot comment on any aspects of this investigation."

Last week, the DTI published a six-page report into the Rom Data crash. This admitted that there were "serious deficiencies in the handling of the case". An urgent review of procedures was ordered.

This weekend, David Jamieson, Labour MP for Plymouth Devonport, called on the DTI to publish its hitherto secret report.

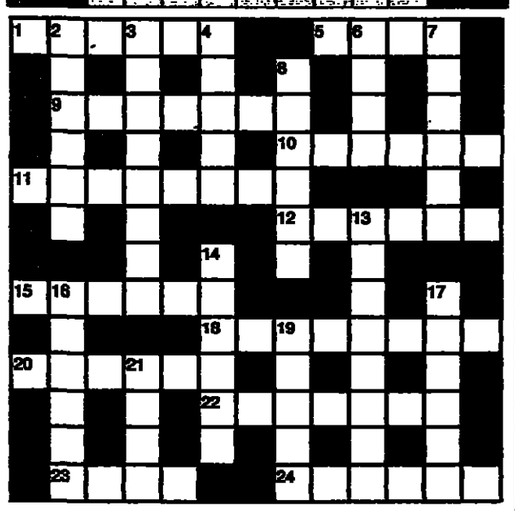
A DTI official said that no decision had been taken on whether the report would be published in full, in part, or even at all. Mr Jamieson said: "Tens of millions of pounds of taxpayers money appear to have been wasted when many genuine firms are crying out for help. DTI ministers must publish the findings of their report, or the public may begin to suspect that a cover-up is in operation."

NARELLE AUTIO



Eagle sequel: Bob Ellis, chief executive of Visual Action Holdings, the last subsidiary of the failed Eagle Trust conglomerate, whose shares make their stock market debut on Wednesday. Flotation raises £69 million for Eagle banks, creditors and former investors

TIMES TWO CROSSWORD



No 720

ACROSS

1 Torpid, dazed state (6)
5 Audacious (4)
9 Comprehensive; finished (3,4)
10 Eugene —, US Nobel playwright (6)
11 Using, based on logic (8)
12 Blue/violet shade (6)
15 Shout: very funny thing (6)
18 Demeaning, unbecoming (5,3)
20 Important person (*slang*) (6)
22 One who hides away (7)
23 Commotion (2-2)
24 Considering: looking at (6)

DOWN

2 Porous powdered-leaf container (3,3)
3 Alleviate; extenuate (8)
4 Deeply divided (5)
6 *Stare lasciviously (at)* (4)
7 A sharp bend (3-3)
8 Long-winded (6)
13 Undeceive (8)
14 Self-exiled person (6)
16 Customer; dependant (6)
17 Old man, received Jesus in temple (6)
19 Klaus —, atom spy (5)
21 Magician's stick (4)

SOLUTION TO NO 719
ACROSS: 1 Dawn chorus 7 Arsenal 8 Throb 10 Phone-in 11 Alike 12 Recede 15 Bedeck 17 Spurs 18 Ophelia 21 Drake 22 Methane 23 Melting pot
DOWN: 1 Disco 2 Wince 3 Colony 4 Outrage 5 Ukraine 6 Pauperised 9 Breakwater 13 Crusade 14 Dissect 16 Common 19 Hot up 20 Least

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Formal Kvaerner bid for Trafalgar near

By Martin Barrow and Alasdair Murray

TALKS between Kvaerner, the Norwegian shipping company, and Trafalgar House are believed to have made significant progress, and a formal takeover bid, recommended by the Trafalgar board, is imminent.

Meetings between representatives of both companies continued through the weekend and are understood to have overcome all significant hurdles. The offer price is unlikely to be far from Friday's closing price of about 45p a share. This would value Trafalgar House at £840 million.

It is also expected that Kvaerner will make a full bid for the whole of Trafalgar, including Cunard, the cruise-ship division. However, it is most likely to seek a prompt disposal of the business. Potential buyers include P&O and America's Carnival Cruises.

Cunard, which lost about £170 million last year, has an ageing fleet that would need major investment over the next few years.

Kvaerner has indicated that it would be reluctant to hold on to Cunard, but may find it needs to invest substantially in improving the subsidiary's performance before it can find a buyer.

Sea of troubles, page 38

Clerical Medical sale likely to fetch £800m

By Marianne Curphey

CLERICAL MEDICAL is set to be sold within four weeks for about £800 million. Potential buyers include NatWest.

The sale of Britain's sixth-largest mutual life assurance group would lead to bonus payments for about one million policyholders.

NatWest yesterday confirmed that it wants to expand its life operations, but refused to comment on whether it is the front-runner in the shortlist of six possible suitors. "We are very interested in the long-term savings and investment market, including life operations which is definitely an area in which we would like to acquire extra capacity," a spokesman said. NatWest has a tie-up with Clerical Medical through NatWest Life, its life assurance subsidiary based in Bristol, in which Clerical Medical has a 7.5 per cent stake and manages some assets.

NatWest is expected to use the £2.2 billion it gained from selling NatWest Bancorp, its American bank, to fund future acquisitions, although the spokesman said that the money would not be available until April.

Last month NatWest announced a £472 million bid for Gartmore, the fund manager, after acquiring a majority stake from Banque Indosuez, of France.

Leeson quiz on 'hidden accounts'

By Robert Miller

NICK LEESON, the rogue trader blamed for the collapse of Barings Bank, is to be quizzed by Singapore inspectors in his Changi prison cell this week after claims that he has hidden away £23 million in secret bank accounts in Germany.

Mr Leeson's advisers reacted angrily to reports in London which, if proved true, could result in further charges over evidence he has given to investigators in Singapore and to Britain's Serious Fraud Office.

Stephen Pollard, of Kingsley Napley, Leeson's solicitor, said yesterday: "Nothing I have seen suggests to me that any money was lost other than by trading on the Far East money exchanges." He added: "Mr Leeson will continue to co-operate as he has done to date with those representatives of the Barings creditors and the inspectors."



Leeson: co-operating

The allegations, contained in a report apparently prepared for professional asset hunters, suggest millions of pounds were syphoned off into bank accounts in the months before the Barings crash. Four of the German accounts are ultimately controlled by an Indonesian company, it is alleged, and a further two are in Leeson's name.

The £860 million Barings collapse has been investigated by the Bank of England's independent board of banking supervision and by specially appointed inspectors in Singapore as well as the island state's commercial affairs department.

Leeson is serving six-and-a-half years in prison after pleading guilty to fraud and forgery charges last November in relation to the Barings crash. All concluded independently that he had not acted for personal gain.

Those most interested in tracing the missing Barings millions are Ernst & Young, the UK administrators, and the Singapore administrators of Barings Futures (Singapore). The Barings Bond Holders Action Group and 32 members of the Association of British Insurers collectively lost £100 million in the crash, and are seeking restitution through various channels. ING, the Dutch banking and insurance group that bought Barings, said it was not involved in the asset-tracing exercise.

The allegation that Leeson did hide money away will also be examined by members of the Commons Treasury Select Committee. MPs have returned to the Barings fiasco and are expected to question senior Barings executives, including Peter Baring, the former chairman. Andrew Tuckey, his deputy, and Peter Norris, the chief executive officer, about their supervisory role in the events leading to the failure of Britain's oldest merchant bank.

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Britain, birthplace of fashion



ANTONIO BERARDI: razor-sharp tailoring, flamboyant touches

ALEXANDER McQUEEN: you should forget the horror-show histrionics and concentrate on the great clothes

HUSSEIN CHALAYAN: grown-up, serious suits in unusual fabrics

A week that proved once again that nobody has brighter ideas that the Brits

Fashion journalist of the year

IAIN R. WEBB

During his visit last week to London Fashion Week, Tim Eggar, from the Department of Trade and Industry, asked me to explain why the event was so important. What did the stylish shenanigans on the catwalks have to do with anything? I simply told him: "This is where ideas are born."

No one has more, or indeed better, ideas than the British. Our designers are revered the world over. Many have achieved international acclaim. Even more are, at this moment, holed up in design studios in Milan, Paris and New York working behind the scenes on the collections of well-known designers.

Yet if Eggar had joined the throng who pushed and pleaded to get into Alexander McQueen's show, held in a church in the East End, he might have wondered if I was bonkers to say such things.

Each season McQueen finds a new way to challenge — and this time he tried to spook us with an overstyled show full of diabolical accessories. *Rosemary's Baby* atmospherics and ghostly-pale models.

His devilishly clever technique (grey flannel and knitwear spliced with see-through stripes, or a flesh-coloured top beaded with tiny seed pearls) and unique vision (roomy coats trimmed with fluffy Mongolian fur, buttoned-together skirts and trousers, or the cutaway military jacket worn over a revealing lace dress) reaffirmed his place as our premier designer.

McQueen has already proved his worth — the perilously low-slung trousers he presented more than two years ago have provided the inspiration for the plethora of hipster pants now flooding the international market, but he should be encouraged to concentrate on the clothes and drop the histrionics which clutter the scene — although I'm sure the groupies who filled his show would disagree.

At the moment, McQueen is one of the most talked about designers on this planet. He spearheads a new school of young Brits including Hussein Chalayan, Antonio Berardi, Pearce Fionda, Clements Ribeiro, Paul Frith and Owen Gaster. They are tomorrow people, each with their own version of a brave new wardrobe.

However, a unifying theme appears to be a shared love of tailoring and a distinctly glamorous touch. Spikey lapels, viciously nipped waists, and angular shoulders are key trademarks.



BETTY JACKSON: offering an easy option



CLEMENTS RIBEIRO: Aunt Lil's look

Hussein Chalayan now offers a more grown-up silhouette. His suits are seriously smart, in oxblood, china blue, grey and brown. Expert seaming is emphasised with piping. His off-the-shoulder dresses steal from such diverse sources as Joan Crawford and Roxy Music designer Antony Price.

Fifties corsages were also popular with Antonio Berardi, who made fluttering tea-dance dresses in brilliant canary yellow. His trouser suits in khaki tweed were strictly tailored with flamboyant details such as medieval sleeves, military uniform piping on the backs of jackets and Boys Brigade sashes across the front of others.

Owen Gaster is equally single-minded but less adroit. His brightly coloured cut-velvet dresses looked fresh, but nasty neon lace dresses were less successful. Better was a more understated look: a simple sleeveless sheer top, layered over a longer, sparkly version.

There was much layering and lace at Paul Frith. Almost everything came in black, so Frith used different fabrics to provide interest. Sleek suits came in shiny fake snake, stretch satin, or starchy nylon, while stinky jersey shirtdresses were slipped over languid trousers. This look, or a long tunic over pants, was popular throughout the shows with designers such as Betty Jackson, Fabio Piras, John Rocha, and Clements Ribeiro.

Frith made no distinction between day and night, showing a jacket with feathered cuffs alongside a full-length jersey dress similarly trimmed, or putting a plain polo neck over a lace dress. Katharine Hamnett followed suit with giant cableknit sweaters worn with sequin trousers, while Betty Jackson showed thick-rib sweaters with voluminous satin skirts. Frith is strongest when he magically makes things look easy; he should avoid the trendy tricks.

The design teams Pearce Fionda and Clements Ribeiro have both matured over the seasons. Each duo has developed a look and is wisely sticking with it.

Pearce Fionda made a bold statement in chocolate and cream — long diaphanous dresses over trousers, wide trousers worn with little tops or shirt jackets, and gigantic grey fluffy coats and jackets.

Clements Ribeiro preferred loopy Aunt Lil styling — knee-length A-line skirts (sometimes in leather), topped with a rollneck sweater or a beaded chiffon blouse the exact colour of Lil's powder compact. Then maybe a Tibetan lamb collared coat or jacket, or a knitted muffler. A strong showing.

John Rocha highlighted the military theme with flap-pocket jackets and long hipster skirts in khaki tweed. He zipped his models into sheepskin and crackly plastic jackets, and put slim trousers under practically everything, including little puffed sleeve see-through dresses. Hard and soft.

What makes British fashion great is its extremes. In contrast with the bright young things there are the established names who prefer to offer their customers comfortable, luxurious clothes which may not make headlines, but nevertheless make women dip into their handbags.

Betty Jackson, Ben de Lisi, Amanda Wakeley, Nicole Farhi and Margaret Howell all offered simply gorgeous designs. They may not change the face of fashion but they certainly help to keep British fashion on everybody's lips.

Photographs by CHRIS MOORE

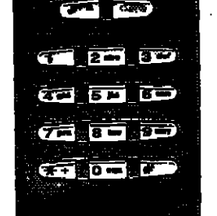
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Cells from remote peoples aid medical science

Tribal treasure



SCIENCE BRIEFING

Nigel Hawkes

PRIMITIVE peoples were once the province of anthropologists: now they are just as likely to be studied by medical researchers in pursuit of rare cell lines. In at least two cases, in Papua New Guinea and in Panama, the biologists' success has caused ill-feeling and threats of legal reprisals.

Last week, an expert in Papua New Guinea came to the defence of the US Department of Health and Human Services, which has caused a furore by patenting a cell line from the remote Hagahai tribe, who live in Madang province in the north of the country.

Dr Michael Alpers, director of the PNG Institute of Medical Research, says that the virus isolated from the Hagahai, called HTLV-I or human T-cell lymphotrophic virus type I, is a variant of the virus found around the world. Infection with HTLV-I, which can be passed on by blood transfusion, can lead to leukaemia and lymphoma.

"We have known for some time that the virus infection is common in Papua New Guinea but the diseases it causes seem to be completely absent," Dr Alpers says. This is of obvious interest to medical researchers, who would like to know why. There is a remote possibility that finding out could lead to a vaccine against HTLV-I infection, which would be a valuable prize.

The PNG furore follows a similar row in Panama, where the Guaymi Indians were discovered to carry HTLV-II, a fairly close cousin of HIV, the Aids virus. Yet, like the Hagahai, few seem to become ill. Representatives of the Guaymi Indians became enraged when they found that the Centres for Disease Control in Atlanta had applied for a patent on the cell line from their blood. The CDC later dropped the application, but not before charges of "biopiracy" had been made.

In Papua New Guinea, the case rumbles on. The PNG High Commissioner in New Zealand, Damien Gamiandu, said: "We have been talking about the exploitation of the rainforest and now we are talking about the exploitation of the human species."

But all this is a misunderstanding, according to Dr Alpers. Far from stealing the cell line from the Hagahai, the patent application specifically mentions them, meaning that the tribe would benefit "if in the remote future some commercial development arose from this discovery". Without the patent, any commercial company could have taken up development of the cell line free of royalties.

"In the Hagahai case, given that the patent application was being made in the US, it was better, I believe, to have made the Hagahai part of it than to have taken the ethical stance not to be involved and to have allowed all the rights to reside in the US," he says.

Meanwhile, British blood supplies are still not screened for HTLV-I and II, although many countries now do such screening as a routine precaution. The view taken by the National Blood Authority is that the infection is rare among British blood donors and the cost of introducing such tests cannot at present be justified.

Bright birds make healthier mates



FEMALE great tits prefer their males to be splendidly arrayed, with vivid yellow feathers on their bellies. But what exactly do the females gain from mating only with the brightest of their suitors?

Various theories have been put forward. Maybe bright plumage is a sign of inner vigour, so ensuring the females a healthy brood. Or perhaps better-looking males do more of the work in looking after the offspring.

Two zoologists from the University of Uppsala have recently published in *Functional Ecology* the results of a study of 80 great tits on the island of Gotland in south-east Sweden. They estimated the brightness of the plumage in each case, and measured the condition of each bird's immune system by counting the different types of white blood cell.

They found that the brighter the bird, the better equipped the immune system to fight parasites. So females which mate with bright birds are choosing the healthiest.

Galaxies cause Hubble trouble



THE remarkable picture taken by the Hubble space telescope, showing the faintest and most remote galaxies ever seen, has now been analysed by a team of astronomers from Cambridge, Australia and Canada. They used a computerised technique to classify the images of about 300 galaxies, comparing them with those near by. They found that the remote galaxies do not fit the classification originally drawn up by Edwin Hubble himself in the 1920s.

"Whichever way we looked at it, we found that at least 30 to 40 per cent of the faint galaxies appear extremely unusual and distorted compared to only a few per cent in the local universe," says Dr Roberto Abraham of the Institute of Astronomy at Cambridge. "The differences are dramatic."

To accommodate these misfits, it looks as if a whole new classification system will have to be drawn up. So Hubble's scheme has survived for 70 years only to be overthrown by a telescope named after him.



XAVIER EICHAKER

Aids is believed to have reached man from primates, so it is ironic that blood from a baboon has been transfused to try to help an Aids victim

Can animals save us?

After an Aids patient received a transfusion from a baboon, the race is on to produce more spare parts from animals. But is it right? **Nigel Hawkes** reports

The close relationship between human beings and animals is about to become closer still. In addition to breeding them, raising them, living with them and eating them, we may soon have to get used to walking around with animal spare parts inside us.

In America, an Aids patient has been given blood from a baboon in an effort to fight off the disease, while several patients suffering from Parkinson's disease have had pig cells injected into their brains.

Such "xenotransplants" could be the first of many, because at least four different teams are now racing to produce entire pig organs — hearts, kidneys and livers — which can be transplanted safely into human patients. Several transplant groups in the US have plans to use unmodified baboon hearts as a temporary measure in patients awaiting transplants.

This week the Nuffield Council on Bioethics will publish a major report on xenotransplantation, to be followed later in the year by similar ruminations from a government-appointed committee. The interest is timely, because the whole project poses huge practical, clinical and ethical difficulties. Some opponents argue that animals are not ours to cut open and use for spare parts, while others see the principal danger as the spread of viruses derived from the animal donors.

> Pig cells have been given to Parkinson's disease patients

Already one member of the US Food and Drug Administration panel that gave clearance for the baboon blood transfusion has implied that the panel was swayed by emotional pleas from the family of the intended recipient, the Aids activist Jeff Getty.

"Knowing that one and only one procedure was being voted upon, this transplant was approved," says Dr Jonathan Allan of the Southwest Foundation for Biomedical Research in San Antonio, Texas, writing in *Nature Medicine*. "Unfortunately, having opened the door, it will be difficult to close it again."

The FDA will soon get a chance to see if he is right, because the surgeon responsible for the baboon transfusion, Suzanne Ildstad of the University of Pittsburgh, fully intends to try again. She expects to submit a summary of the data to the FDA soon, and apply within a few months for permission to go on to more patients.

The irony is that many experts believe that Aids originally reached man from monkeys. Dr Allan says that the simian immunodeficiency viruses — the monkey equivalents of HIV — may have been harboured in African primates for thousands of years without causing any disease, before vaulting to man. Baboons do not apparently carry SIV, but they do have viruses in persistent and latent forms which may remain with them throughout life.

"Baboons are an infectious disease nightmare," says Dr Allan. Giving their organs to Aids patients whose immune system is already on the ropes provides the perfect opportunity for a new infection to get a foothold. Pigs pose less of a risk but they can still harbour viruses.

Pigs can also be raised in sterile conditions, and special precautions taken to ensure they are safe. Nor is the use of pig materials exactly new: diabetics used pig insulin successfully for decades before a way was found of producing the human version, and pig heart valves have also been implanted successfully into human patients. But neither of these involves living cells.

The pig cells transplanted into the brain of the Parkinson's disease patient Tony Johnson, 58, a former highway engineer, came from a pig specially selected because she had tested negative to all known disease-causing viruses. She was raised in a purpose-built laboratory by handlers wearing disposable surgical gowns, and she breathed only filtered air.

Once adult, she was bred with a similarly clean boar, and on the day of the operation at a Massachusetts medical centre her partially-developed foetuses were removed by Caesarean section and tiny sections of their brains extracted. Each fragment of brain contained one and a half million brain cells, of which perhaps 1 to 2 per cent were the sort capable of producing dopamine, the brain chemical lacking in Parkinson's.

Finally, three droplets of fluid were injected into Tony Johnson's brain under local anaesthetic. The immune system, which would normally destroy such cells as foreign, is relatively inactive in the brain. The hope is that they will survive long enough to provide the dopamine his own brain cells cannot.

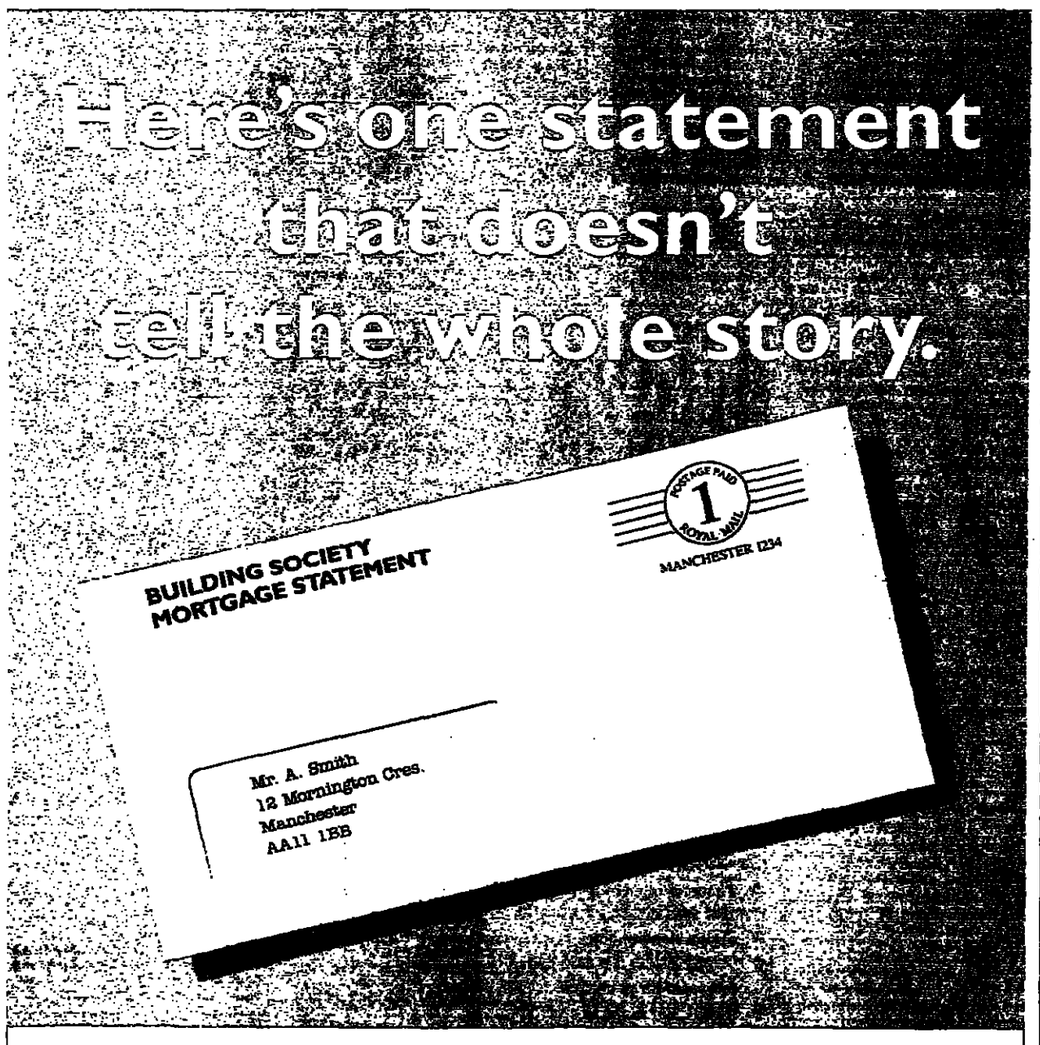
The initial effects appear good — Mr Johnson can walk and talk better than before — but surgeons have warned him that this may wear off. Parkinson's patients often appear better for a while after any brain operation, only to slip back later.

In the case of Jeff Getty, the baboon cells transfused into his blood supply do not appear to have survived, perhaps because his own immune system had been insufficiently suppressed before the transfusion. Dr Ildstad says that in future trials she will use larger doses of immune-suppressing drugs to "condition" the patient first.

Companies on both sides of the Atlantic are racing to produce pigs which are genetically modified so that their organs are not immediately recognised as foreign and rejected. Considerable progress has been reported, with the Cambridge-based company Imutran emerging as a leader in the field.

Dr Allan for the moment remains a lone voice in expressing alarm. He believes that the strictest possible guidelines are needed, limiting donor species to pigs.

"Given that the risks from xenotransplantation may be far greater than those from genetic engineering, no less should be accepted for this new and growing enterprise," he says.



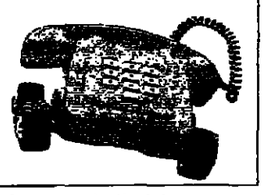
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Penicillin holds key to fresher food

Mould breaking

A SLIDE containing a sample of the original mould that led Alexander Fleming to discover penicillin is expected to fetch more than £10,000 at Sotheby's on Friday. Nearly 70 years after the breakthrough, however, penicillin antibiotics still have to be made from mould grown by natural fermentation.

Chemical synthesis is not commercially viable, even though the chemical structure of penicillin has been determined by X-ray crystallography. According to Professor Jack Baldwin, a chemist at Oxford University, penicillin antibiotics have fascinated synthetic organic chemists for more than 50 years. "There is still no efficient synthesis of the penicillins," he says.



Alexander Fleming

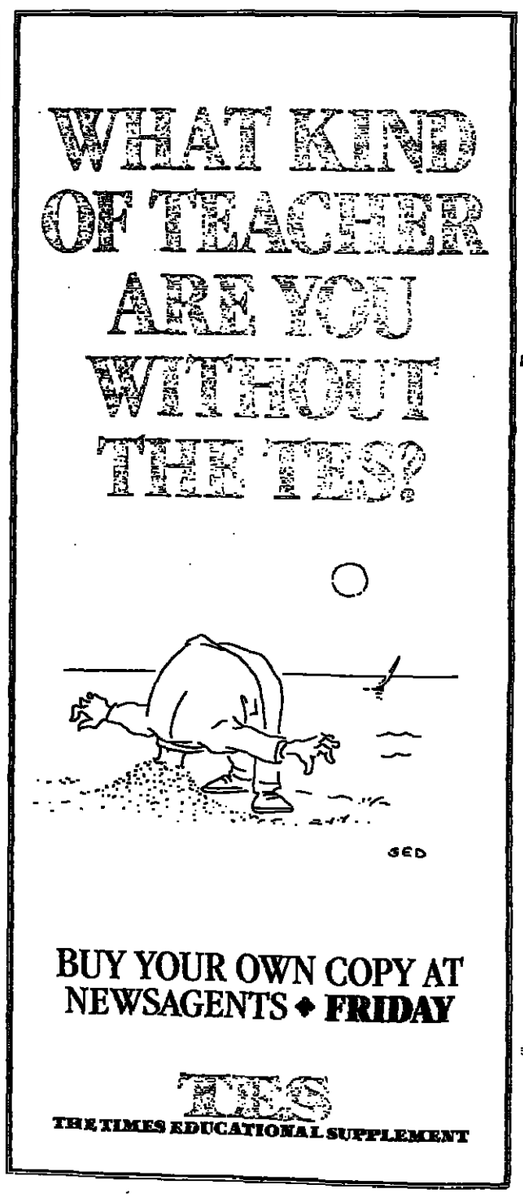
Professor Baldwin has discovered that the natural synthesis includes a reaction step unknown in synthetic chemistry. In this step, an enzyme reacts with the chain-like precursor molecule of the penicillin, catalysing the reaction of a molecule of oxygen with four of the precursor's hydrogen atoms, converting them to water and tying the chain into a figure of eight.

"The unusual aspect of this enzyme reaction is that it depends on two elements of haemoglobin, iron and oxygen," says Professor Baldwin. "There's something very weird about this." In 1995, Oxford chemists crystallised the pure enzyme and determined its structure. It appeared to be the first in a "superfamily" of enzymes likely to have wide applications.

One possibility is that this reaction step might be exploited in syntheses of medical and industrial chemicals. It might also enable improvement of the biological routes to penicillins. "Now we are seeing insights into the structure, I hope it will be possible to modify this protein by genetic engineering," says Professor Baldwin.

The discovery of this unique catalytic event has wider implications. "There's almost certainly a super-family of enzymes that use iron and oxygen to do interesting chemistry." Professor Baldwin speculates. The family would include enzymes that cause fruit to ripen and leaves to fall. Greater understanding of how they work might allow us to alter the rate of ripening for fresher food.

HUGH ALDERSEY-WILLIAMS



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We are all losers in the sex war

For our mothers and fathers, the gender roles used to be simple — men earned the bread and women baked it. But the search for sexual parity has reduced society to a state of hopeless confusion, says Tony Parsons

KEV OUTTON



Deadlier than the male — but if the strident Nineties woman is free only to behave as badly as men, it is a curiously tawdry freedom

Once there was a time when men and women knew exactly what was expected of them. Men made money. Women made homes. Father brought home the bacon and mother made bacon sandwiches.

But what does it mean to be a man today? As sperm-counts plummet across the Western world, the modern male is torn between acting like an old-fashioned guy or a female impersonator.

There is now a vast range of cosmetics for men. There are magazines and television programmes devoted solely to men's health. And throughout the Nineties we have grown accustomed to the crumpled faces of men crying in public — not just showbiz types like Tom Hanks and Chris Evans, but also hairy-armed sporting heroes like Paul Gascoigne and Andre Agassi. Has something softened inside the hearts of men? Is the modern male as in touch with his emotions and as obsessed with his facial pores as any woman?

The lads who read the phenomenally successful *Loaded* magazine would demur. In the pages of *Loaded*, easily the most successful magazine for men in Britain, they celebrate traditional manly tastes — football, beer, birds and crisps. In that order. They do not worry about male health at *Loaded*. The only lumps they are interested in examining belong to the likes of Pamela Anderson.

The choice facing men today is between simpering cissy and unreconstructed lout. No choice at all. But confusion among women runs just as deep. Women have been told for so long that they are morally obliged to have both a career and a family that anything less seems like setting for failure.

The career woman who chooses not to have children is made to feel unfulfilled. Yet the woman who decides to devote herself to her family is made to feel second-rate. The millions of women who try to balance both worlds are made to feel guilty.

The response among younger women to this dilemma — at least in the feverish imagination of the media — has been an abjuration of femininity. The New Lass — deified in late night programmes such as *The Girlie Show* — drinks, swears and bays for sexual satisfaction just like any man. But if women are free only to behave as badly as men, that seems a curiously tawdry sort of freedom.

I blame the search for parity between the sexes. We have striven so hard for equal pay, *equal rights* and equal orgasms that we have forgotten that there are other things in life apart from equality. We have forgotten that men and women are equal but different.

Thirty years ago the gender roles were very rigorously defined. In the Fifties and Sixties, every suburban Dad was a little Ernest Hemingway, given automatic respect and his tea on the table. "Wait until your father gets home," was a threat to subdue even the wildest child. But just how good were the good old days?

> The choice facing men is between simpering cissy and lout. Confusion among women runs just as deep

In many ways the old man was a distant, solitary figure, discouraged from displays of emotion, separated from his children by work and convention, excluded from his home life even when he was sitting in the biggest chair.

As for women, economic subservience meant that some were trapped in abusive and unhappy marriages. But these were also the years when women ruled their homes in a way that would be unthinkable today, with mother off at the office and her domestic duties taken over by hired help. In the old days, a woman was the Almighty in an apron — even if she wasn't taken seriously beyond the garden gate.

It had to change — and it did. And many of the changes were good. Men became more involved in parenting and women entered the workplace. But the end of sexual apartheid brought its own problems. The old roles — man as breadwinner, woman as bread baker — have gone for ever, but they have yet to be truly replaced.

Neither men nor women are free to be what they want to be. Men are still expected to work — how we would jeer at the father who wanted to stay at home with his children and let his wife go out to work. Women are still obliged to give birth. A man without a job — or a woman without children — is still considered a freak. Men and women have all assumed extra responsibilities but the myth of Having It All has become the messy reality of Doing It All.

There is no way back to the ways of our parents. Once men would kill and die for their country. But the manly virtues — physical courage, grace under pressure — are more difficult to justify for the generations who never went to war.

We do not wear our masculinity as well. Being a man is now either a cause for yobbish celebration or shame. Today's men are either pathetic parodies of women or they exist in a state of perpetual adolescence.

Meanwhile, feminism has imposed a terrible orthodoxy on the modern woman. She is expected to have a career as surely as she was once expected to have children.

A woman is not free to devote herself to her children — society and friends conspire to make the best homemaker feel inferior to the worst shorthand typist. And yet the childless career woman is openly despised. Feminism should have increased female options. Instead, it seems to have restricted them. It is curiously twisted sort of liberty.

Girls with attitude. Boys who worry about what moisturiser they should be using. Women who cuss like sailors and men who turn on the waterworks. Women who are hopelessly torn between home and work and men who can't decide if they are a caveman or Delia Smith. Where do we go from here?

A generation of empowered women should not have bred a race of neutered males. But neither should it provoke men into adopting the crassest manifestations of masculinity. And the women who grew up with feminist rhetoric should realise that they have become slaves to its outmoded dogma.

Men and women should stop trying so hard to resemble each other. We should remember that heterosexuality is a celebration of differences. The way forward is for men and women to realise that we are unfortunately still not that equal but thankfully very different. You can fake an orgasm. But you can't fake an erection. For that we should be grateful.

● *Tony Parsons writes a weekly column for the* Daily Mirror. Equal But Different *is on Channel 4's* Without Walls *tomorrow at 9.30pm.*

GEORGE JAWORSKYJ



Negotiating brunch at Christopher's in Covent Garden

Rules for table-hoppers



SIGN OF THE TIMES

by Giles Coren

To acknowledge the arrival of a friend at a nearby restaurant table in prewar Bratislava, as my late grandmother used to tell me, was a social transgression that could lead to debarment from the establishment, and ostracisation from one's friends. To be distracted from the food was as unforgivable by the *maitre d'* as distraction from the conversation was by one's company.

In *fin de siécle* Rhode Island, on the other hand, the Vanderbilts and the Carnegies would send their calling cards from table to table in the finest Newport eateries, and the success of an evening depended on the fluidity of inter-table traffic.

Thus is ever the distinction between the etiquette of Europe and the New World. As any number of social documentaries have insisted, the secret of great restaurant orchestration in Hollywood lies not in the grovelling servility or knowledge of the wine list, but in seating people in such a way that communication between tables is made almost unavoidable.

Los Angeles is a world so designed for dinner-time schmoozing that every possible passing acquaintance must be seated within easy reach of a swift hello. It is a symptom, perhaps, of a society in full grip of the Internet, where at virtual restaurants attended by surfers the world over, butting in is the only way to join the fun.

And yet in Britain, which is catching up in so many ways with advances in American eating culture — think of the Conran complexes, Marco Pierre White's Criterion, The Atlantic in Piccadilly — we still have real problems knowing what to do when we see someone we know in a restaurant. According to the receptionist at Quaglino's, who is responsible for the greeting and seating side of things, the most common request is to be seated apart from particular diners, rather than close by.

But what to do if eyes are caught? It is a situation undealt with by the etiquette books: in the middle of a mouthful of *bouillabaisse*, do you suddenly leap up at the sight of an old schoolfriend and introduce him to your table of ten prospective clients from Mitsubishi?

And if you are the passing friend, do you stop and say hello? Is it ruder to stay or to pass your old friend by? When you mention it later, he will surely say you should have come over and said hello. But that would have left your own co-diners staring at an empty chair. And what if there was only one co-diner, and that a brand new lover? Should the ten men from Mitsubishi lay down their spoons and troop over to be introduced?

In general we do not go for the big wave across the room. It has to do with being brought up not to talk with our mouths full, play with our food, or get up from the table without finishing what was put in front of us.

And then you see a married colleague from the office, eating with a man half her age. If it is her son you should surely say hello — but what if it is Fabio the superstud, or Robbie the love rat from *EastEnders*? Can you risk guessing wrong?

The solution can only be to soften the situation with a different social transgression. And this is what wide boys and yuppies have been doing since the technological revolution of the mid-1980s. Next time you turn and tut at some shiny-suited individual answering his mobile at the table, bear in mind that it is probably some stranded diner at a far-away table, calling to see if he should come over and say hello.

Today sets my teeth on edge



THE ROW over who should present the *Today* programme on Radio 4 leaves some of us indifferent. Hobday or Humphrys? MacGregor or Ford? Who cares? I stopped listening to *Today* about 20 years ago, and have rarely regretted it. The programme that sets the agenda used to set my teeth on edge. Every interview went on far too long, until you were screaming aloud for it to stop, while the presenters, even then, were a bit too fond of themselves.

Occasional accidental encounters with *Today* since then haven't changed my mind. John Humphrys clearly has a terminal case of a disease that often afflicts American journalists, the belief that they can plug into the public mood better than the politicians who actually stand for office.

And then there are those angry exchanges with ministers which are all part of a game presenters love to play. Behind the scenes you know they are perfectly polite, even friendly, so it is insulting the public's perception to pretend to genuine conflict on air. It is all shadow-boxing, excluding the listener by its implication that politicians and journalists are fellow members of the club that rules the world.

Other Radio 4 programmes do not do this. The admirable *World Tonight* still maintains an urbane balance, eschewing airs and graces and silly boasts about its own importance.

Journalists are citizens, nothing more: they are not public prosecutors, scourges of the wicked, or — heaven forbid — the conscience of the nation. They exist to prick pomposity, not to embody it. When they start posing and preening, and pretending that their half hour on the air is the real cockpit of politics, it is time to turn off. Terry Wogan on Radio 2 is a far more attractive alternative.

NIGEL HAWKES

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ARTS THE WEEK AHEAD



VISUAL ART

The Hayward marks cinema's centenary with *Spellbound*, a quirky show by quirky people

OPEN: Now
REVIEW: Tomorrow



DANCE

Christopher Gable puts his new version of *Don Quixote* on stage for Northern Ballet Theatre

OPENS: Tonight, Leeds
REVIEW: Wednesday



MUSIC

Period-instrument guru Nikolaus Harnoncourt conducts Haydn at the Barbican

CONCERT: Tonight
REVIEW: Wednesday



MUSICAL

The pinball rolls again: curtain up on Pete Townshend's *Tommy* at the Shaftesbury Theatre

OPENS: Tomorrow
REVIEW: Thursday

Starting today, Gallery Week will introduce contemporary art to a new audience. **Simon Tait** reports

ADRIAN BROOKS



Members of the Scarlet Theatre troupe of performance artists interpret Francis Bacon's *Three Studies for Figures at the Base of a Crucifixion* as part of the first Gallery Week

March of the mods

This evening, the stark white Portland stone façade of the National Museum of Wales in Cardiff will become a giant canvas. Paintings of children, 40ft high, will be projected on to it. Meanwhile, 50 works of art inside the museum will be sporting new labels, written by under-11-year-olds as part of a competition, and the *Child's Eye View Guidebook* will have its official launch.

It's all part of Britain's first Gallery Week. Until next Sunday, institutions across the country will be doing their best to open up the too-often closed world of contemporary art to a new audience.

As many as 200 galleries have dreamt up their own ploys to make people take a closer look at contemporary work. The Whitworth in Manchester is inviting visitors to create a giant jigsaw from the works of Edouardo Paolozzi that the gallery has on show. In Lincoln the Usher is asking local people to create their own gallery, while in Ipswich Christchurch Mansion has situated pictures from its modern collection in period settings and will be inviting visitors to find them.

Enter the Bruce Castle Museum in Tottenham — through a giant tube of paint — and you will meet artists who will explain how they do what they do. Meanwhile, Sunderland Museum and Art Gallery will host the Contemporary Art Society's exhibition of 100 works it has bought for public collections since 1992. For its part, the Walsall Museum and Art Gallery will be asking visitors to review the contemporary pieces it has on show.

There will be banner-making, portrait photography sessions, workshop tours, the creation on-site of specially commissioned installations, mime artists mingling with crowds in the Tate Gallery, in London, and even a free lecture by the director of the National Gallery, Neil MacGregor, about how to approach pictures for the first time.

Gallery Week is the first large-scale venture by the little-known National Association for Gallery Education. "We're aiming the week principally at children, but also at adults to give them the confidence to approach contemporary art," says Sue Grayson Ford, the association's chairman. "For some reason in this country we have managed to set contemporary art apart in a way that doesn't happen anywhere else."

The association was set up by the Arts Council as long ago as 1988, but its activities have been modest and largely unseen. Ford became chairman two years ago and immediately began building the network to create Gallery Week. The association (to be known as Engage in future, rather than the clumsier, if more accurate, acronym Nage) is still core-funded by the Arts Council, whose £25,000 grant this year will provide most of its income (the subscriptions of the 300 members are negligible, their support being far more valuable). The unpaid Ford has a part-time staff of two, but intends to supplement Engage's income and extend activities through sponsorship.

Ford has spent her professional life introducing the public to contemporary art, first as founder-director of the Serpentine Gallery as long ago as 1970, and more recently as director of the Photographers' Gallery. "The role of the Serpentine in the Seventies was rather different from now," she says. "We were less high-profile, we didn't set out to be provocative, but we were concerned to dispel the myths too many people believe about contemporary art, which is very much what we want to do in Gallery Week."

The leaflet produced to promote Gallery Week has already added about 50 new members of Engage, both institutions and individuals. The event is intended to become an annual one, and the search is already on for £25,000 to finance next year's Gallery Week.

"We don't see why the success of National Music Day, which is relatively new but already a fixture in the arts calendar, can't be repeated for contemporary art," Ford says.

There is a hidden agenda, she says. Too few museum and gallery directors give enough priority to teaching contemporary art, she believes, and gaps have to be filled in the national curriculum where art studies are mandatory only in the early key stages.

"Gallery education officers are often very lonely individuals, working too often in a vacuum," Ford says. "We want to underpin their efforts because education is still not a very respectable area of gallery work. Gallery Week can help to change all that."

CONCERTS

Way off the stylistic mark

LSO/Davis
Barbican

THE London Symphony Orchestra is now about halfway through its Bruckner-Mozart Series, and so far Bruckner has provided most of the surprises. Colin Davis has been tackling new repertory here, whereas he is an experienced, natural Mozartian. But on Thursday he gave an uncontroversial, indeed authoritative, account of Bruckner's Seventh, and presided over a Sinfonia Concertante that came as a nasty shock.

Davis was not to blame for what appears to be a new Russian tendency in artist promotion. There is little other explanation for how the violinist Dmitri Vassiliev came to share the platform with one of the world's leading viola players, Yuri Bashmet. With acidic, sometimes strangulated, tone and strident phrasing, Vassiliev was as far from the stylistic mark as Vladivostock is from Moscow.

Even though Bashmet was guilty of some wayward intonation and is himself not most at home in the idiom, his performance succeeded on its own musical terms. Davis could do little to rescue one of Mozart's most sublime works: with a modest-sized band, he established the piece's warm glow at the start of each movement, but each time this nobility was sabotaged by the neo-expressionist outpouring on his left.

It was a relief to reach Bruckner. Davis unfolded the Seventh's opening movement in a steady, expansive flow. He brought out the compassion and calm lyricism, and built powerful, organ-like climaxes. The tumultuous Scherzo rolled along a little heavily: it was not too slow, but perhaps it was lacking in bounce.

The Adagio, with its Wagner tubas and the coda that Bruckner added after hearing of Wagner's death, had lambent solemnity. But Davis managed only to hint at the spiritual dimension here, surely a vital ingredient of great Bruckner performances.

JOHN ALLISON

Eminence grace

Irina Arkhipova
Wigmore Hall

A NEW idea in programme planning is fast gathering momentum. In a benevolent gesture of patronage, an *éminence grise* of the concert platform, usually well past retiring age, introduces his or her outstanding pupil to a well-disposed public, and actually shares the platform with the protégé.

The latest instalment of this particular generation game took place at the Wigmore Hall where mezzo-soprano Irina Arkhipova, sometime prima donna of the Bolshoi, Laureate of the Lenin Prize and Hero of the Soviet People, stood side by side with young Natalia Datsko, Ukraine-born soprano, international prize-winner, and a budding new Tosca and Tatiana.

Arkhipova began the evening with Alessandro Stradella's *Pieta, Signore* and Verdi's *Ave Maria*. Both prayers are hushed and sombre. The marble cladding may have worn off Arkhipova's mezzo, but the resilient granite of training underneath is unscarred.

The same finely chiselled shaping characterised Datsko's performance of Leonora's *Tacea la notte placida* from *Il trovatore* and *Tue che le vanita*, from *Don Carlos*, one note vapour-trailing up to another in perfectly controlled *portamento*.

Tchaikovsky ruled after the interval. Arkhipova took centre stage for a shadowy, retrospective performance of the Countess's scene and aria from *Pique Dame*; Datsko responded with two effortlessly resonant *Romances*.

Sometimes a deep octave apart, sometimes in comradely close harmony, Arkhipova and Datsko gave their all to the salon melodramas of Tchaikovsky's Op 46. Their final duet from *Pique Dame* went down so well that they turned themselves into shepherdesses for the encore, mopping and mowing their way through the opera's little Mozartian pastorale, and then repeating it all over again.

HILARY FINCH



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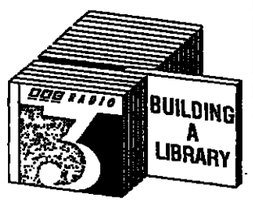
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CLASSICAL CHOICE

A guide to the best available recordings, presented in conjunction with Radio 3

BRAHMS'S CELLO SONATAS reviewed by Arnette Morreau



For cellists, recording Brahms's two sonatas is a rite of passage. In the present catalogue there are a daunting number available: 28 versions of the E minor; 24 of the later F major. Twenty years separated their composition. Both are for piano and cello, signalling a debt to the classical tradition and problems of balance. The E minor, written in 1865, is generally regarded as the "simple" sonata, because its range is generally lower than the later F major. But balance is very problematic, particularly in the last movement, where the cellist has often to strain against his partner.

Pounding pianists, as well as those lacking in the ability or sensitivity to bring out the range of Brahms's colours abound — including, alas, Rudolph Buchbinder on Janos Starker's latest recording for BMG Classics. But Steven Isserlis and Peter Evans (Hyperion CDA 66159) bring finely nuanced playing.

For a historic recording, Emanuel Feuermann's E minor sonata in 1934 remains a classic, but go for the reissue on Biddulph (LAB 011); Pearl has transferred the 78s at the wrong pitch. The choice between the two Starker recordings of 1979 and 1992 is "stark". Starker never fails to beguile the ear, so it's down to the difference between pianists and recorded sound. Although the 1979 recording on Erato (4509 96950-2) is hissy, Georgy Sebok is so musical that this is strongly recommended.

However, my overall choice is for the young Norwegian cellist **Truls Mork** and his marvellous pianist, **Juhani Lagerspetz** (Virgin Classics 5 45052-2, £13.95). Mork's playing is full and focused, and with an intensity that captures every nuance of Brahms's demanding writing.

● *To order the recommended recording, with free delivery, please send a cheque payable to The Times CD Mail to 29 Pall Mall Deposit, Barlby Road, London W10 6BL or freephone 0500 418419; e-mail: bid@mail.bogo.co.uk*
● *Next Saturday on Radio 3 (9am): A Stephen Sondheim survey*

POP

Meat to the beat

Goldie
Forum, NW5

SEVERAL years after its inception, the dance music known as jungle boasts a substantial underground following. Walsall-born Goldie prefers the tag "drum and bass" for his take on this crossbreed of clubland cultures. With his group Metalheadz, he has taken the genre further into the pop consciousness than most, conquering the festival circuit and achieving a Top Ten album with *Timeless*.

An evening of Metalheadz music means not just their stage show but lengthy record sets in which the highly percussive, unyielding jungle grooves keep the audience on a steady heat. Drum and bass has been portrayed as somewhat robotic, but while the breakneck beat is supplied by a machine — a real drummer would end the night with sprained wrists at best — the group's show is full of human touches. Goldie stands over his keyboard at the back of the set, a film of scattered, abstract images playing behind him while four dancers cavort stage left. Various other worker bees toil conscientiously.

Their biggest "crossover" single, *Inner City Life*, is the early joker, but in a 20-minute rendition that includes soul and ska phases. Other pieces lack that track's sweetening R&B vocals and are cooked up for more robust palates. The performance may lack humour, but certainly not expression, nor endeavour.

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THEATRE

Powerful Irish drama at the Barbican, as the RSC stages *Observe the Sons of Ulster*

OPENS: Wednesday
REVIEW: Friday



POP

Michael Bolton, plus hair, offers Wembley Arena a smattering of his greatest hits

GIG: Wednesday
REVIEW: Friday



BOOKS

A new collection of his letters throws light on the essential Mr Kipling

IN THE SHOPS: Now
REVIEW: Thursday



FILM

***Restoration* weaves a sumptuous fantasy on English history**

OPENS: Friday
REVIEW: Thursday

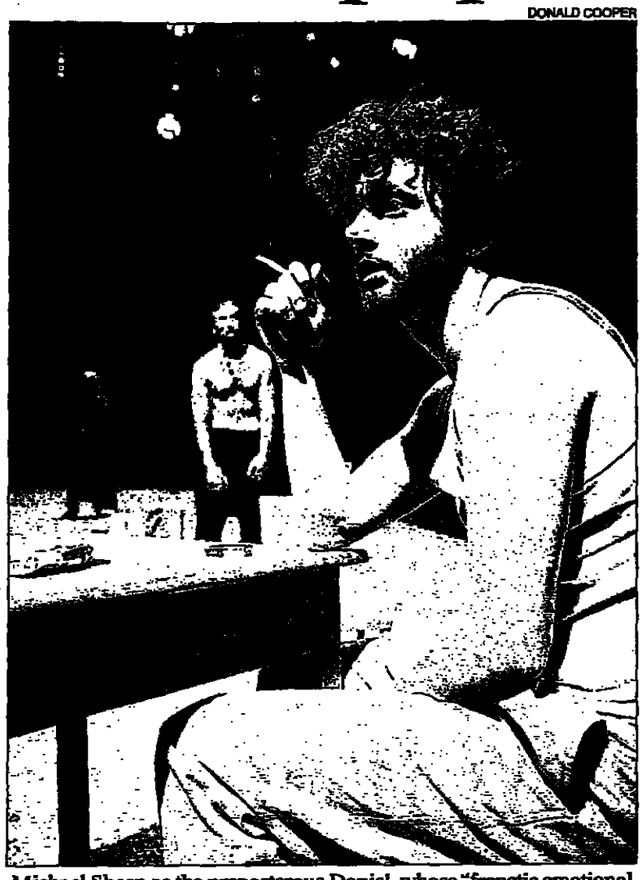
ARTS
TUESDAY TO FRIDAY
IN SECTION 2

A sense of mountain pique

THEATRE

The Ends of the Earth
Cottesloe

DONALD COOPER



Michael Sheen as the preposterous Daniel, whose "frenetic emotional contortions owe little to observed life" in *The Ends of the Earth*

The director Andrei Serban has transformed the well of the Cottesloe into a long, wide corridor with the audience flanking each side, much as Deborah Warner did for *Richard II* last year; but nothing so clear occurs inside it as the destruction of an English king.

David Lan's play (sponsored by AT&T) is a curious, chaotic piece, which involves conflict in the Balkans and the Balkan conflicts in an English geologist's soul. Although I admired its imaginative scope, I have to say it sometimes left me feeling that I had been parachuted into deepest Bulgaria without a phrase book.

Actually, I have seen places in Croatia and northwest Greece a bit like the unnamed village Richard Hudson has designed for us. The ground is stony: unshaven men play chess at rickety tables; folksy folk with stringed instruments meander about. Some of the conversation sounds a bit stage-ethnic: "The only sin is to believe that happiness is gone forever ... after winter comes spring, that is the wisdom of the streams, of the hills." But Serban is Romanian, and is presumably to be trusted where Balkan pastoral is concerned.

The setting is not the main problem with the play, nor are the politics. The mountain people want a new dam, but the valley folk do not, for it will lead to the flooding of what the local dentist calls "the most beautiful place God has left his fingerprints on". In Act I an edgy peace is obtained, but by Act II armed guerrillas are beating up men with hoods over their heads. Tom Mannion's dentist is now a rebel chief and about as good an advertisement for his profession as Laurence Olivier's crazed Nazi in *Marathon Man*.

No, the twin problems are Daniel, the geologist played by Michael Sheen, and his wife Cathy, played by Samantha Bond. Back home, their infant daughter is ill with heart disease, which explains why they are so angry with each other. It also explains why Daniel goes haring up a mountain in search of a holy man, and why, when a passing guru urges Daniel to give up smoking, he does so. He believes this sacrifice may save his child, and he takes another puff only after the gun-toting dentist has made it clear that continued abstinence will result in murder.

The talk ranges from God to free will to guilt, but the main subject seems to be the residual shamanism that makes even sophisticated Westerners believe they can tamper with destiny. The trouble is that there is something preposterous about both Daniel and Cathy. It is hard to believe in Bond when she starts saying that hatred of him has given her an inner "badness" which has contaminated their child. Still less does Sheen convince you that his feverish emotional contortions and frenetic physical writhings — foetal twists and all — owe much to observed life or thought-through psychology.

I never cared much what happened to Daniel's wife and child and, as for him, I hoped someone would take him up that Balkan mountain and throw him off. Is that the reaction Lan wants? I don't think so.

BENEDICT NIGHTINGALE

Tragedy with manners

Black Chiffon
Yvonne Arnaud, Guildford

THE Chelsea house of Alicia and Robert Christie overlooks the Thames, which is generally a placid sheet of water hereabouts, but not in the design by Iona McLeish for this touring production. Through the lofty windows we see that the grey water is writhing in discontent at being confined and channelled between embankments.

Alicia does not know that she too is inwardly writhing, and Lesley Storm's 1949 drama begins by showing a household enjoying — if that's the word — an unnaturally blessed life. True, there has been trouble between Robert and his son Roy, of whom Alicia is very fond. But in three days' time Roy is to marry loving and sensible Louise, and this will close a chapter in his mother's life.

Except that, while out buying unrationed food to entertain her future in-laws, Alicia stuffs a black chiffon nightdress into her handbag and is arrested. Is her unconscious trying to tell her something?

Storm was a successful writer for stage and screen from the 1930s to the 1950s. She wrote "issue" plays in the days before this task was taken on by television and, because her skills were not as sharp as Rattigan's, *Black Chiffon* provides fewer dramatic surprises than you will find in his plays. Furthermore, a gentler approach to conflict means that her characters are exposed but not eviscerated, and in our more demanding times this comes across as an avoidance of the real matter of their distress. But up to that point where we could have been given more and aren't, this play provides decent enjoyment.

Susan Hampshire plays Alicia with a grace of movement and a tremor in her voice that will keep an audience on her side whatever murky emotions emerge from the psychiatrist's probe. Like all psychiatrists of that period — Priestley's, for instance — Dr Hawkins is thoughtful and kindly, and Greg Hicks plays him thus.

Alan Dobie is the jealous husband, a role made difficult by Storm's economy with detail; Samantha Holland gives a well-observed study of a young English rose, and Sean O'Connor's direction makes the journeys between chairs and sofa look natural.

JEREMY KINGSTON

Driven towards madness by various roots

Double Bill
Gate, W11

THE Gate's biennale season of new plays from Europe continues with a double bill from Sweden and Russia. Stig Larsson's drama **Sisters, Brothers** depicts three sisters, clearly hardly in touch, congregating with partners at the youngest's Stockholm flat.

The small talk starts off awkwardly then escalates into rants, rivalries, exposures and crumbling self-control. At first firmly brushed with satirical comedy but increasingly disturbing, this work is realistic in its observations of ricocheting speech patterns.

Nikolai Kolyada's **The Oginski Polonaise** is more patently off the wall. East European absurdism and magic realism imbue this portrait of Moscow, post-perestroika. Tanya, a former ambassador's daughter, returns from exile in America. She is clearly off her head, but is hoping to start a new life, bearing the key to her childhood home which, however, has been taken over by a strange gaggle of her ancestors' servants.

These plays share common ground. Besides faint echoes of Chekhov, both are interested in contemporary people returning to their roots. They depict adults on the verge of breakdown, craving to love and live intensely yet never truly connecting.

The Oginski Polonaise seems the more exciting production at first, with the audience scattered among the cranky rooms of Tanya's dream house. Victoria Worsley's Tanya combines drive and frailty. However, director Pat Kiernan bypasses accents which would clarify the tugs between American and Russian culture. Kolyada's play becomes rambling, its significance elusive.

On the other hand, *Sisters, Brothers*, directed by David Farr, begins weakly, but gains momentum and becomes unexpectedly upsetting. Gabrielle Dellal's Aina grows from amusingly distracted eldest sister to a dangerous wreck, while Emily Best's Bibi starts out coolly poised and finishes screaming.

KATE BASSETT

LONDON

THE KING OF PRUSSIA. Opening night for the first of the "Four Corners" plays to be given a week's London run here: Nick Darke's interesting-sounding play about 18th-century Cornish smugglers, presented by the excellent Knaehigh Theatre
Donmar Warehouse, Earlham Street, WC2 (0171-369 1732). Tonight, 7pm Then Tue-Sat, 8pm; mats Thurs and Sat, 4pm.

VIENNA PIONEERS Nikolaus Harnoncourt and his ground-breaking period-instrument group, Vienna Concentus Musicus, give what may be one of the most stimulating concerts of the season, a programme of Haydn symphonies and arias, with soprano Barbara Bonney. As part of the Group Dynamics series, a collaboration of chamber orchestras between London and Berlin
Barbican Silk Street, EC2 (0171-638 8891). Tonight, 7.30pm

MILES AHEAD. The London Sinfonietta offers a tribute to Miles Davis in its first concert of the Towards the Millennium festival. Davis helped redefine orchestral jazz and this week's programmes include versions of *Miles Ahead* and *Sketches of Spain*, with Guy Barker and Lew Soloff assigned the task of invoking his ghost. Guest artists are pianist Joanna MacGregor in London and saxophonist Tommy Smith in Birmingham. Markus Stenz conducts

TODAY'S CHOICE

A daily guide to arts and entertainment compiled by Kris Anderson

Queen Elizabeth Hall, South Bank, SE1 (0171-960 4242) Tonight, 7.45pm Tue, **Birmingham**, Symphony Hall (0121-212 3333). 7.30pm.

ELSEWHERE

BRADFORD: Skullduggery and deception abound as Frederick Knott's **Dial M For Murder** continues its national tour. Peter Davis and Catherine Rabett star as the married couple with secret passions, with Peter Bourke, Richard Lumsden and John Vine. A Mobile Touring Theatre production
Alhambra, Morley Street (01274 752000) Tonight-Sat, 7.30pm, mats Wed, 2pm and Sat, 2.30pm

BRIGHTON: David Soul plays the fanatical scholarly sleuth pursuing **The Aspern Papers**. Faith Brook is the Venetian woman with the secrets and Hannah Gordon is her niece who Henry James (Soul) would do wrong. Michael Redgrave adapts Henry James's still charming classic
Theatre Royal, New Road (01273 328488) Tonight-Sat, 7.45pm; mats Thurs, 2.30 and Sat, 4pm

LEEDS: Northern Ballet Theatre opens its spring season with a re-choreographed *Don Quixote* from director Christopher Gable and Michael Barrett-Pink. The new version of Cervantes's story retains highlights of its NBT predecessors, with music by Philip Feeney supplementing the original score. Daniel de Andrade creates the role of Basilio. Charlotte Broom is Kitri, Jeremy Kemdge returns as Sancho Panza and Stephen Wheeler is the Don Grand, New Briggate (0113-245 9351/ 440971) Tonight-Sat, 7.30pm; mats Thurs, 2pm and Sat, 2.30pm.

WINDSOR Henry Goodman plays Freud, with Tim Potter as Salvador Dali, in Terry Johnson's surreal, double award-winner, **Hysteria**. Acclaimed by our reviewer as "the funniest serious play in London" last year
Theatre Royal, Thames Street (01753 853888) Tonight-Sat, 8pm, mat Sat, 4.45pm Now on tour

LONDON GALLERIES

Barbican: Diaghilev (0171-638 4141) **Hayward:** Spellbound: Art and Film (071-928 3144) . . **National Gallery:** Picasso's Portrait of Angel Fernández de Soto (071-747 2885) . . **National Portrait Gallery:** The Room (071-306 0055) . . **Royal Academy:** Leighton (0171-439 . . Tate: Cézanne, Colin Self . . ture, drawings and prints . . V&A: The Leighs . . (0171-938 8500)

THEATRE GUIDE

Jeremy Kingston's assessment of theatre showing in London

■ **House full, returns only**
◪ **Some seats available**
□ **Seats at all prices**

◪ **20-52:** Strong devised piece, directed by Jeremy Welles, exploring the curious (to say the least) circumstances of a man whose life ended in police custody in 1982. An award-winner at Edinburgh last year.
Tricycle, Kilburn High Road, NW6 (0171-328 1000). Opens tonight, 7pm Then Mon-Sat, 8pm, mat Sat, 4pm Until Mar 23

◪ **CHAPTER TWO:** Tom Conti and Sharon Gless play unattached New Yorkers wheeling towards each other in Neil Simon's comedy. Not his best
Gielgud, Shaftesbury Avenue, W1 (0171-494 5065) Mon-Fri, 8pm, Sat, 8.15pm, mats Thurs 3pm, Sat 5pm

□ **HEAVEN BY STORM:** The Umbilical Brothers, otherwise the Australian acrobatic comedians Shane Dundas and Dave Collins, bring their ingenious and alluring show to London Arts, Great Newport Street, WC2 (0171-836 2132). Mon-Sat, 8pm.

□ **AN IDEAL HUSBAND.** Triumphant return for Peter Hall's production of Wilde's drama of political sleaze and scandal. The star cast includes Martin Shaw, Anna Carteret, Pennie Downie.
Theatre Royal, Haymarket, SW1 (0171-930 8800). Mon-Sat, 7.45pm; mats Wed and Sat, 3pm.

□ **PRESENT LAUGHTER.** Peter Bowles is Gary Essendine in Noël Coward's exaggerated self-portrait of a star pursued by devotees and loving every minute of it. Caroline Langrishe and Deborah Grant co-star.
Aldwych, The Aldwych, WC2 (0171-379 3367) Mon-Sat, 8pm; mats Thurs, 3pm and Sat, 4pm

□ **SKYLIGHT:** Michael Gambon and Lia Williams, with Daniel Betts, in David Hare's dramatisation of society's conflicts in the form of a prickly reunion between two lovers. A National Theatre transfer
Wyndham's, Charing Cross Road, WC2 (0171-369 1736). Mon-Sat, 8pm; mat Sat 3pm.

□ **SLAUGHTER CITY:** New play, savage and surreal, set in a slaughter-house, by Naomi Wallace. Essentially a piece about labour conditions. Confusing but vivid. In rep.
Pit, Barbican, Silk Street, EC2 (0171-638 8891). Tonight and Tue, 7.15pm

□ **A TALENT TO AMUSE:** The words and music of Noël Coward, brought to life with skilful, sometimes mischievous charm, by Peter Greenwell, Coward's accompanist for ten years.

Vaudeville, . . WC2 (0171-836 9987) Mon-Sat, 8pm; mats Wed and Sat, 3pm

■ **TOMMY:** Pete Townshend's famous musical stars the 19-year-old hitherto unknown Paul Keating as the deaf, dumb and blind pinball wizard, with Kim Wilde as his mum.
Shaftesbury, Shaftesbury Avenue, WC2 (0171-379 5399) All proceeds tonight (8pm) to Teenage Cancer Trust (0171-436 2877) Opens Tue, 7pm.

■ **VALLEY SONG:** Athol Fugard's first play since the end of apartheid interestingly mourns aspects of the past while welcoming, with degrees of enthusiasm, the future. Fugard himself acts two roles.
Royal Court, Sloane Square, SW1 (0171-730 1745) Mon-Sat, 7.30pm, mat Sat, 3.30pm

LONG RUNNERS

□ **Blood Brothers:** Phoenix (0171-867 1044) . . . □ **Dead Guilty:** Apollo (0171-494 5070) . . . ◪ **Fame:** Cambridge (0171-494 5083) . . . □ **Funny Money:** Playhouse (0171-839 4401) . . . □ **Jolson:** Victoria Palace (0171-834 1317) □ **Mack and Mabel,** Piccadilly (0171-369 1734) . . . ■ **Les Misérables:** Palace (0171-434 0909) □ **Sunset Boulevard:** Adelphi (0171-344 0055) . . □ **The Woman in Black:** *Fortune* (0171-836 2238)

Ticket information supplied by Society of London Theatre

NEW RELEASES

FRENCH TWIST (18): Jovial French farce with a lesbian angle from writer-director Josiane Balasko, who co-stars with Victoria Abril.
MGMs: Chelsea (0171-352 5096) **Piccadilly** (0171-437 3561) **Tottenham Court Road** (0171-636 6148) **Odeons: Kensington** (01426 914666) **Swiss Cottage** (01426 914098) **Ritzy** (0171-737 2121) **Screen/Baker Street** (0171-935 2772) **Warner** ◪ (0171-437 4343)

LA MADRE MUERTA (18): Murderer becomes obsessed with the child witness to a killing. Juanma Bajo Ulloa's perverse Spanish psychodrama.
MGM Piccadilly (0171-437 3561)

STRANGE DAYS (18): Uncomfortable apocalyptic drama, with Ralph Fiennes as a trafficker in virtual reality. With Angela Bassett. Director, Kathryn Bigelow
MGM Trocadero ◪ (0171-434 0031) **Plaza** (0171-437 1234) **UCI Whiteleys** ◪ (0171-792 3332) **Warner** ◪ (0171-437 4343)

◆ **WHEN SATURDAY COMES** (15): Can Sean Bean make the grade with Sheffield United? Do we care? With Emily Lloyd. Director, Maria Giese.
MGM Chelsea (0171-352 5096) **Odeon West End** (01426 915574) **UCI Whiteleys** ◪ (0171-792 3332)

CURRENT

BED OF ROSES (PG): Witing, whimsical romance set in a fairy-tale New York, with Mary Stuart Masterson and Christian Slater
Plaza (0171-437 1234)

CINEMA GUIDE

Geoff Brown's assessment of films in London and (where indicated with the symbol ◆) on release across the country

◆ **CASINO** (18): Scorsese's epic of Las Vegas in the 1970s, glorious background detail, but the human drama flags. With Robert De Niro, Sharon Stone and Joe Pesci.
Barbican ◪ (0171-638 8891) **Clapham Picture** (0171-498 3323) **Coronet** ◪ (0171-727 6705) **Empire** ◪ (0171-437 1234) **MGMs: Baker St** (0171-935 9772) **Fulham Rd** (0171-370 2636) **Trocadero** ◪ (0171-434 0031) **Odeon Kensington** (01426 914666) **Rio** (0171-254 6677) **Ritzy** (0171-737 2121) **UCI Whiteleys** ◪ (792 3332)

◆ **DANGEROUS MINDS** (15): Michelle Pfeiffer brings hope to an inner-city school. Predictable, rose-tinted drama; director, John N. Smith.
Odeon Mezzanine ◪ (01426 915683)

◆ **JUMANJI** (PG): Exhilarating romp about a rainforest board game that comes to life. With Robin Williams.
Clapham Picture House (0171-498 3323) **MGMs: Baker Street** (0171-935 9772) **Chelsea** (0171-352 5096) **Fulham Road** ◪ (0171-370 2636) **Odeons: Kensington** (01426 914666) **Leicester Square** (01426 915683) **Marble Arch** (01426 914501) **Swiss Cottage** (01426 914098) **UCI Whiteleys** ◪ (0171-792 3332)

OTHELLO (12): Laurence Fishburne as the jealous Moor, Kenneth Branagh as the scheming Iago. Oliver Parker's lively version for general audiences
Barbican ◪ (0171-638 8891) **Odeons: Haymarket** (01426 915353) **Kensington** (01426 914666) **Swiss Cottage** (01426 914098) **Richmond** (0181-332 0030) **UCI Whiteleys** ◪ (0171-792 3332) **Warner** ◪ (0171-437 4343)

RENDEZ-VOUS IN PARIS (PG): Three tales of love and chance. Featherweight delight from Eric Rohmer, with a youthful cast of unknowns
Minema (0171-235 4225) **Renoir** (0171-837 8402)

◆ **SENSE AND SENSIBILITY** (U): Emma Thompson's radiant adaptation of Jane Austen's early novel, with Thompson and Kate Winslet as sisters with different approaches to romance. Director, Ang Lee.
Chelsea (0171-351 3742) **Curzons: Mayfair** (0171-369 1720) **West End** (0171-369 1722) **Odeon Kensington** (01426 914666) **Screen/Hill** ◪ (0171-435 3366)

◆ **TRAINSPOTTING** (18): Irvine Welsh's absolute look at junkie life; made by the Shallow Grave team.
Clapham Picture (0171-498 3323) **Gate** ◪ (0171-727 4043) **MGMs: Fulham Rd** (0171-370 2636) **Haymarket** (0171-839 1527) **Tottenham Court Road** (0171-636 6148) **Odeon Swiss Cottage** (01426 914098) **Ritzy** (0171-737 2121) **Screen/Baker Street** (0171-935 2772) **Screen/Green** (0171-226 3520) **UCI Whiteleys** ◪ (0171-792 3332) **Warner** ◪ (0171-437 4343)

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■ Let all Islington rejoice! Peter Mandelson (like Hitler, Enver Hoxha and Castro) is offering a state dowry

In Cuba recently I found what was, to me, a new idea: a scheme to subsidise the betrothal of young couples. The details escape me, but fringe benefits included a wedding dress, provided as a loan from the State, and a honeymoon.

On a visit to Albania I found similar incentives. Should I ever marry, it will undoubtedly be in Albania, a conclusion my mother probably reached years ago.

With a mixture of surprise and curio[illegible] I learnt last week [illegible] Peter Mandelson, [illegible]lair's communicati[illegible]mo, is thinking [illegible]ilar lines. The [illegible] Sir Peter Horde, [illegible]ong to tell John M[illegible] PM's Questions th[illegible] last world leader to adopt such plans was Adolf Hitler; Castro and the late Enver Hoxha of Albania had already joined the queue. I also seem to remember a Tory women's committee voicing similar proposals — a "fidelity bonus" payable after ten years' marriage. Such an intriguing coalition: Enver Hoxha and Fidel Castro, Adolf Hitler, the Conservative women and Mr Mandelson! All have been known to sport moustaches.

Let me quote Mr Mandelson direct, from his new book, *The Blair Revolution: Can New Labour Deliver?* Explaining that some young would-be spouses are poorer than others, he muses: "Access to a lump sum of, say, £5,000, would make an enormous difference at that stage of life." An option Mr Mandelson proposes would be: the provision of medium-term, deferred repayment, interest-free loans to young couples without access to private capital of their own; in effect, a form of public dowry, available just once in a lifetime, and to be called *Getting Off To A Good Start*.

> Politically cynical people often weave a web of naivety about themselves

Getting Off, eh? Having not got off in quite this way myself, I was intrigued to find Mr Mandelson proposing to use my taxes to encourage others to do so. Maybe the aim is to guide young people away from the pitfalls into which people like me have tumbled. But why?

I suppose there are three possible answers. One is that Mr Mandelson is motivated by pure altruism. This needs to be no more than articulated to be discarded as ludicrous.

Another is that Mr Mandelson is looking forward to some happy event of his own, of which he has not yet informed us. This would be simply marvellous news. Let all Islington rejoice! As Gomez Addams says to his brother Fester in *Addams Family Values*: "I hope that some day you will know the indescribable joy of having children, and paying someone else to bring them up." To the idea that the event might be encouraged by what Mr Mandelson calls "a form of public dowry", I say hear-hear.

Indeed, I suggest that some form of public subscription might be raised now. I should be pleased, personally, to match from my own pocket, pound for pound, any sum raised in a public appeal for funds for Mr Mandelson's dowry. I should also like to arrange a nationwide series of sponsored charity parachute jumps, to pay for his honeymoon. In Albania, perhaps.

But we jump the gun. The banns have yet to be read, the bells yet to peal out their message of national celebration. It may not happen. This leaves us with a third possibility: that Mr Mandelson's proposal is designed to appeal to voters, and he actually thinks that the British electorate will swallow this sort of guff.

You know, quite possibly he does. It is paradoxical but true that those who live in a world in intrigue, dealmaking and political cynicism can become curiously innocent. They get detached from the things that make ordinary people tick. Thus do the cynical weave about themselves a web of naivety, almost childlike. I suppose it's what my father would call "being too clever by half": an ivory tower, however smoke-filled, high above the sound of the belly-laughs of the populace. I hope Mr Mandelson and "new" Labour proceed with the plan; I shall be able to have about 15 columns' worth of fun with it.

Why only "once in a lifetime", for instance? What if one's first wife is eaten by a shark during the honeymoon? Are the sorrows of bereavement to be aggravated by the State's refusal to fund any second attempt at wedded bliss?

Why limit it to the poor? Surely it is the poor — and only the poor — who may be tempted to marry to secure the loan? Are these not precisely the type of people that new Labour and its target voters would wish to discourage from reproducing? Why for only one spouse? In a multicultural society, Mr Mandelson's suggestion is little short of racist.

And, finally, what about me? For I had been encouraged by Mr Mandelson's introductory remarks in an early chapter describing the character of his leader. Though having "a mutually supportive family" who "spend time together" ("in addition to Cherie and their three young children, Blair is close to his brother Bill and his sister Sarah"), Tony Blair ("swimming after church on Sundays is a regular event") is no prig. "He does not feel morally superior to those who choose to live their lives differently."

Oh good. I'll just dash out and chew the heads off three hamsters, then.

Conspiracy theorists in the United States have found their ideal presidential candidate

Wall Street, treason and Pat Buchanan

Press and Money Power, and demonstrated by personal example what one man, armed only with integrity and the courage to act upon it can achieve . . . P.S. To denigrate Mr Buchanan is to denigrate his millions of supporters too.

Every conspiracy theorist in the United States seems to be backing Pat Buchanan, along with one or two in Britain as well. One of my occasional correspondents is Mr Peter Johnston: I suspect that he also corresponds with quite a number of other people. He has taken up the cudgels on behalf of Pat Buchanan and objects to my reference to Buchanan as "too fascist". He has sent me an open letter and copied it to Norris McWhirter and others.

I do not think his open letter will attract much attention, because his views will be regarded as outside the boundaries of reasonable discourse in Britain, though they would be common enough on the Internet or talk shows in America. However, they interest me precisely because they do fall outside the boundaries of what is discussed on the BBC or in most of the broadsheet press. His views are worth considering, if only because he and quite a few people like him hold them passionately. Certainly, many of Pat Buchanan's voters do, and, up to a point, Mr Buchanan does himself.

Let me quote from Mr Johnston's letter on Pat Buchanan:

> "A merchant of fear" — "A merchant of anger" might have been better — more honest! — but then, I suppose your readers would have expected an explanation of why Americans are so angry: that just wouldn't do, would it!
>
> Pat Buchanan is the only Republican candidate who has spurned the blandishments of the Council on Foreign Relations, the Bilderberg Group and the Trilateral Commission, and denounced the New World Order — a conspiracy to establish "World Government". Pat Buchanan is the only Republican candidate committed to reform of the Federal Reserve "system" — the biggest and most far-reaching fraud ever perpetrated on a free nation, *except* for the Maastricht Treaty! . . . Even if Pat Buchanan is "stopped" in his bid for the presidency, already he has swept away the hollow shams of

This is punchy stuff, and I enjoy receiving Mr Johnston's letters, even though I disagree with most of what he has to say. They show what the world looks like from a completely different point of view. I do not know whether Mr Johnston has an American connection himself, but his belief that America has been taken over by Establishment conspirators is very widely held in the United States.

In 1984, the year of President Reagan's second election, I was given a lecture on the world conspiracy by a black taxi driver in Atlanta, Georgia. He explained that in 1917, General Motors, US, and General Motors, Russia, had agreed to divide the world between them. Since then they had been in control of their respective countries, employing such characters as Franklin Roosevelt and Joseph Stalin as convenient figureheads. They had organised the Second World War in order to sell arms, and, because they had surplus arms factories after 1945, they had arranged the Cold War. In effect, Reagan and Gorbachev were senior employees of the same company.

At this level of myth, conspiracy theories become completely grotesque, though that does not mean they can be disregarded, as Waco and the Oklahoma City bombing showed. At Mr Johnston's level, the theories may be equally erroneous, but the fact that so many people believe them shows that they possess psychological attraction. To these conspiracy-mongers, as to Pat Buchanan, the world is a place manipulated by the Establishment — of which columnists like myself form a part — to the disadvantage of outsiders, of ordinary Americans, ordinary Britons or ordinary Russians. There is indeed one American propagandist who has broadcast the view that I am the head of the British Secret Service, and that I have conspired with the Dalai Lama to put the Queen on the throne of Mexico. That would be news to MI6, the Dalai Lama and the Queen.

William Rees-Mogg

How can one be sure that one's own perception of reality is more reliable? Last time I went to a Bilderberg conference, it was held in Athens, about three years ago. Tony Blair was there, not yet leader of the Labour Party, Conrad Black and Barbara Amiel were there, the Queen of The Netherlands was there. It was all pleasantly grand. Yet it is hard to think of any subject on which we would be likely to conspire. The Queen of The Netherlands is as Euro-fanatic as Ted Heath. Tony Blair is a modest good European. I have been an anti-Maastricht campaigner and Mr Black is a Canadian neo-realist who owns 500 newspapers. The idea that we all join hands on some witches' Sabbath to manipulate the world is almost as absurd as the belief that I am trying to make the Queen of England the crowned head of Mexico. Yet Mr Johnston is not alone in turning shadows into bogeys. Mr Buchanan himself is threatening to take the United States out of the World Trade Organisation, which he regards as another sinister international body, conspiring against American interests.

Such popular fears of a conspiracy of power are nothing new; even John of Gaunt suffered from the belief that he [illegible] controlled a sinister Establishment, which included Geoffrey Chaucer. My American grandfather was an active local Democrat who worked on Wall Street; indeed, my mother was kissed as a baby by Grover Cleveland during the campaign of 1892. In 1896, my grandfather could hardly bring himself to vote for William Jennings Bryan because of Bryan's populist attacks on the Wall Street conspiracy. My grandfather did not believe that "mankind is crucified upon a Cross of Gold". He thought gold was a very useful monetary commodity, as I do myself.

Mr Johnston is probably right to say that Mr Buchanan is "a merchant of anger", though I still think he is also a merchant of fear. There is an anger running through modern society, a terrible anger in Russia, a gallic anger in France, a mild anger in Britain, an anger that could conceivably elect Buchanan in America. It is not a reasonable anger; many of its targets are hard-working people doing useful jobs which hold the world together. Yet anger and fear go hand in hand. Our late-20th-century fear is the natural product of accelerating economic change.

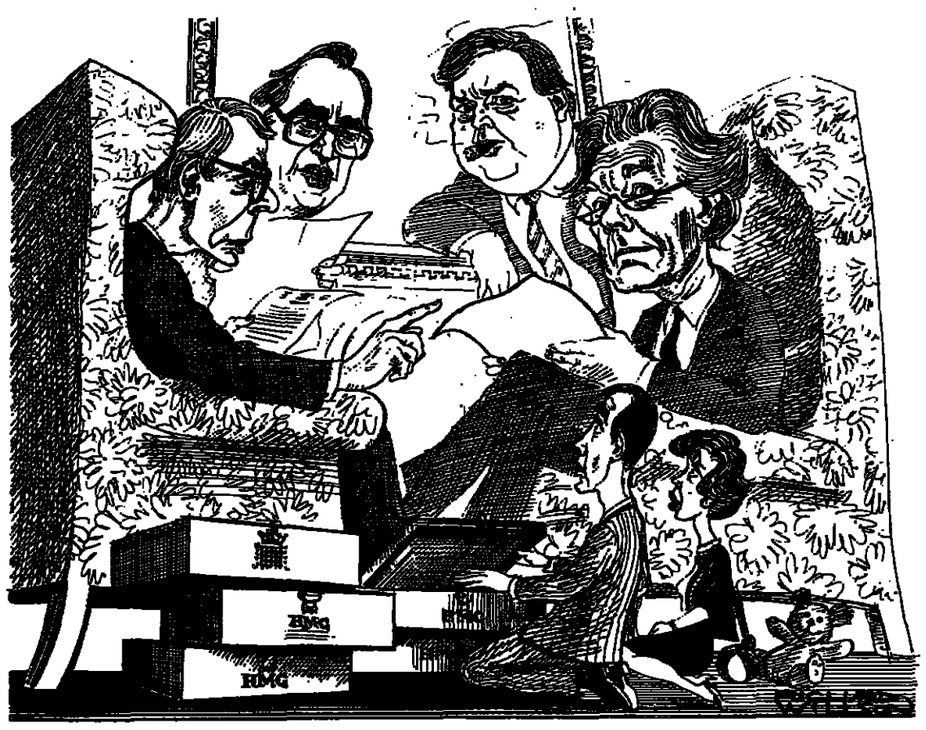
In my last article on Pat Buchanan, I referred to the opposition he faces from the so-called "cognitive elite", the people who are the beneficiaries of the information age. The phrase comes from *The Bell Curve*, by Richard J. Herrnstein and Charles Murray. These are the people with high IQs and good education, who get the highly skilled jobs that pay the best; they often marry other high-earners. They are a pivotal group in the modern world economy, but they are a minority, and people are jealous of their success.

An identifiable privileged minority, like Wall Street financiers in the 1890s, Jewish businessmen in Weimar Germany or the brightest and the best in America of the 1990s are always likely to attract suspicion, fear, anger and hatred. These are dangerous emotions which arise naturally from the resentment of those who believe that they stand outside the windows of the clubhouse of power and cannot quite hear what is being said inside. Mr Buchanan both shares these emotions and plays on them; he is the hero of the disempowered, and they help him to split the Republican vote.

Not in front of the nation

Politicians must remember that the media thrive on secrecy, argues

Peter Riddell



Politicians do not really trust the media. And we don't trust politicians either, most journalists will say. You don't even have to echo the resounding claims for the press made by *The Times* at its most thunderous during the mid-19th-century Delane era to accept the inevitability, even desirability, of tension between the two. But many politicians now go further and regard the media, or large parts of it, as a mischievous, if not malevolent, force inhibiting the proper working of government. That was implicit not only in the attitudes of many in Whitehall revealed by the Scott report, but also in a lecture given last week by Brian Mawhinney, the Tory chairman. The argument is central to the nature of our political life and to the extent of open government.

The easy option for a journalist is to consider all politicians to be lying scoundrels out for themselves, who deserve all they get from the media. I do not. Most politicians I know have the usual mixture of human failings, with perhaps a greater element of vanity and certainty than the rest of us. But most are neither corrupt nor part of a conspiracy to distort the public good. Their sin, inherent in a party system, is to mistrust anyone not on their side, whether in the press or the Commons. Hence, the central message of the Scott inquiry was not that William Waldegrave or Sir Nicholas Lyell were wicked or liars — they were not — but its revelation of an instinctive preference for secrecy in Whitehall.

Lord Howe of Aberavon was typically more candid than most in his "not in front of the children" attitude — his worries over the "enormous" scope for distortion and misunderstanding if fuller explanations are given. Of course, many matters should remain secret, for reasons of national security or commercial confidence, but too often the reason is likely political embarrassment. As Scott noted, "in circumstances where disclosure might be politically or administratively inconvenient, the balance struck by the Government comes down, time and time again, against full disclosure". The threat is not a national enemy but the Opposition and the press.

Dr Mawhinney's lecture unintentionally offered a gloss on Scott. The Tory chairman is in private more reflective and approachable than his combative public image and his lecture is much more than a politician's whine against the media. Some of his complaints — for instance, about the reduction in reporting of parliamentary proceedings — are misconceived. Of course, greater competition between papers has played a part in cutting such verbatim reports, although big events such as the Scott debate a week ago are still covered in depth. But by far the most important reason is that the chamber of the Commons is no longer so central to political life. It has been rivalled by broadcasting studios, select committees and a myriad other activities outside the chamber.

RIDDELL ON MONDAY

But many of his points are uncomfortably near the mark. Much coverage of politics has become too cynical, conspiracy-minded and dominated by soundbites and unrepresentative rebels. Too much lacks perspective or proportion. The trivial and extreme are emphasised over the significant and the mainstream. Everything is seen as a crisis, when often it is merely a hump on the road. Too much is partisan, although not quite in the way he claims about TV dramas and satirical programmes being biased against the Tories. Instead, too much political reporting and comment is linked to party and factional arguments rather than providing an impartial analysis. Much of the media coverage of the Tory leadership election was flawed in this way.

Nonetheless, Dr Mawhinney is wrong to argue that during the election campaign the media should act primarily as "a channel" for passing on the words of those seeking election with "straightforward reporting" rather than more explanation and interpretation. Policy proposals should obviously be reported in depth, but politicians' statements cannot be taken at face value. They are, by defintion and practice, partial, and it is the press's job to evaluate party claims. Its duty is to do so fairly — and the fear that it will not contributes to the culture of secrecy. That is not merely a ministerial response. Peter Mandelson argues in his *The Blair Revolution* for a statutory right to know. But when I asked him on the BBC's *Week in Westminster* programme on Saturday whether Labour's policymaking should be more open, he complained about an adversarial press, thriving on the sensational and always nit-picking over policy ideas.

The answer is not continued defensiveness but greater openness. The best case is, paradoxically, provided by the Government itself. The constitution has not collapsed as a result of its many openness initiatives: publishing Questions of Procedure for Ministers, disclosing the membership of Cabinet committees, putting the intelligence agencies on a statutory footing and subject to parliamentary oversight, releasing many official records and giving parents and patients access to official records. Most important of all has been Kenneth Clarke's decision to publish the minutes of his monthly meetings with the Governor of the Bank of England on monetary policy. This would have been unthinkable ten years ago. Even though it is an uneasy and over-personalised halfway house, the financial press and the markets have not overreacted to differences of emphasis and timing on interest rate changes.

Policymaking would be improved if more information was provided — not Civil Service advice that might compromise political impartiality, but expert and background analyses on options, as the Campaign for Freedom of Information has urged. That has happened in countries with similar "Westminster" models, such as Australia and Canada. The case for openness is practical as well as democratic. Politicians may be wary of the media's response. But they should remember that journalists thrive on secrecy rather than openness.

Royal penalty

AFTER watching Scotland lose to England at Murrayfield on Saturday, the Princess Royal took another blow on the rugby field yesterday. She was on the touchline when Peter, her 18-year-old son, was injured and had to leave the pitch.

The match was a trial game in Edinburgh for the Scotland schoolboy team. Peter has already played for the schoolboys against France and Wales, and has proved popular as much for his terrier-like ability on the pitch as for his locker-room humour after the game.

But during a scrum yesterday, he tore a muscle in his back. He grimaced as a physiotherapist treated him, then made a disconsolate exit from the field of play to watch from the sidelines with his mother and Tim Laurence, her husband.

The injury is not expected to prevent his playing in the needle match against England at the end of the month, should the selectors want him. If he *is* selected, my advice is not to follow the example of the Scottish national side and go to the cinema on the eve of the match for relaxation.

They chose *Braveheart*, a rousing film about the 13th-century nationalist William Wallace who painted his face in Scotland's colours before doing battle with the English. And it signally failed to inspire the Scots rugger players to victory on Saturday.



● *Paul Keating, the iguana-tongued political has-been, will become rich in a few weeks when he leaves the Australian Parliament after his drubbing in the elections.*

DIARY

Canberra statisticans say that the republican's payout after 27 years in the federal Parliament will be more than £300,000, with a pension top-up of some £70,000 a year. The Queen will not be amused.

Feeling blue

BLUE-STOCKINGED Girton girls have been part of Cambridge life for more than a century, but they have just discovered to their fury that they are not officially considered to belong to Cambridge.

Modern undergraduates at Girton, who now include men, are angry that they are not eligible for the student discounts of a Cambridge City Council Leisurecard because the college is in South Cambridge District Council. "They are making us feel like second-class students," fulminates Aodham Connolly, the president of the JCR. The city council, however, remains intransigent.

Eton record

ETON College hit its way into the record books at the weekend with the first-ever charity rackets marathon lasting 24 hours. Relays of boys and Old Etonians played a series of continuous doubles matches from 12.30pm on Saturday to 12.30pm yesterday.

Prince William was approached to take part in the competition, but did not. In the event, thousands of pounds was raised for a cancer charity.

Knockout

WHY DO boxers embarrass us all by proposing to their girlfriends just when they look their worst (after a boxing match) and in the most vulgar of surroundings (the boxing ring)?

With one eye split and the other half closed, Nigel Benn dropped on one knee in a sea of sweat after losing his WBC super middleweight fight on Saturday night and proposed to his girlfriend, Caroline, who accepted. Chris Eubank proposed after a fight in 1990. His tongue had been cut in the fight and enunciation was not his strong ticket.

Desmond Morris, author of *The Naked Ape*, offers an explanation. "The male boxer is adopting a primeval role in which he is earning his keep by bravery, courage and risk-taking," he says. "So he can be as sloppy as he likes without people thinking him a softy."

Dresilla Beyfus, the mistress of etiquette and author of *Modern Manners*, despairs: "I am not at all in favour of these public proposals. It's crude and unromantic."



Nigel Benn: the ring thing

Chairperson

MICHAEL HESELTINE's authority was called into question when he entertained Gillian Shephard in his vast suite of offices in Downing Street. The tiny Education Secretary had been invited to discuss employment initiatives.

She spurned the offer of a capacious leather chair, realising that her legs wouldn't touch the ground, and asked instead for a hard-backed chair to be brought in. Then she requested a desk. Finally she laid out her papers, looked the manic-haired maestro in the eye and asked what it was exactly that he wanted to know.

Booty

NO STONE was left unturned to ensure that one of the highlights of London Fashion Week, the designer Tomasz Starzewski's show at Asprey's, ran without a glitch.

The rumour is that Asprey's removed its gems and baubles from the shop before the show in case some of the beautiful people in the audience might be tempted to pocket a trinket or two. Asprey's, instead of depositing the jewels in another building, is said to have placed them in a heavily fortified van. So while Helena Christiansen and her friends swanned about on the catwalk, a less fashionable individual from the world of security was driving aimlessly about London with a boot full of gold.



Helena Christiansen: no baubles

P·H·S

[illegible] هكذا من الأصل

هكذا من الاصل

VIEW FROM THE EAST

Deeper currents could still carry the Tories to victory

The further the vantage point, the clearer the view: or so the travelling politician likes to think. As John Major contemplates the future from the Hong Kong home of his friend Chris Patten, he can see himself in a colony whose economic success vindicates his vision and alongside a man whose moderate Conservative instincts reinforce his own. Away from the daily concerns of Westminster, Mr Major's view from the Pacific Rim is of a prospect which, despite looming squalls, looks slowly brighter.

Seven days ago the air was thick with fatal threats. The Scott report might have provoked a vote of confidence. The defection of Peter Thurnham confirmed the impression that Tory MPs were preparing for defeat rather than a fight. The Prime Minister's single proudest act of statesmanship, the Ulster peace process, was in grave peril.

A week later those concerns have somewhat abated. Victory, however slim, last Monday took the sting out of Scott. The debate marked a little more unravelling of the administration's authority but it could have been so much worse. Mr Thurnham's defection became increasingly seen as a matter of pride rather than principle. As for Ulster, there will be difficult days ahead: but last week Mr Major gave a good impression of a man driving events.

The Prime Minister may well reflect on hopeful signs from the East itself this weekend. In Australia a Socialist party committed to constitutional reform lost to a conservative coalition led unassertively but prepared to tackle public spending and resist organised labour. From Hong Kong — still thriving under low taxes and light regulation despite the communist threat ahead — Britain looks less like the decaying Ruritania described by Labour's literary fantasists and more like a modern State equipped to compete economically with global challenges. Unsentimental investors in Pacific boardrooms make Britain their location of choice. The supply-side reforms that the Tories introduced in the Eighties attracted, and still attract, foreign industry. Mr Major is consolidating that advantage.

Success with the economy does not win elections on its own, but it does make possible the Tories' best potential electoral message: "Don't Let Labour Ruin It". Another interest rate cut may come soon and real disposable incomes are on an upward curve. Voters who enjoy increasing prosperity become less susceptible to health and unemployment fears. As economic statistics improve, so Labour's hold on voters' affections should become less firm. The salience of reasons for discontent — among backbenchers, financial backers and voters — will diminish.

These deeper currents will not, however, carry the Tories smoothly forward. Labour is prepared for them and is showing no complacency. Defeats in the South-East Staffordshire by-election and May's local elections will intensify the counter-pressures on morale. The Tory Left maintains a porous border towards Labour and the Liberal Democrats. Relations with the Unionists who can, and want to, sustain Mr Major through to next year are strained. Imminent examination of Westminster Council's record will give new impetus to the "sleaze" allegations that are at the heart of the electorate's tiredness with Tory rule.

Yet none of these difficulties individually strikes at the surest Tory strut, identified in 1992 by Mr Patten when he was chairman of the Tory party. Elections, he argued, are won only by opposition parties who are seen to have a set of ideas appropriate to the new challenges of the age. In 1945 and 1979 the tide of ideas ran overwhelmingly in the Opposition's favour. In 1996 the force and direction of the tide is less clear.

The Hong Kong Governor, examining the outlines of the Blair revolution from his own distant retreat, will find little in the ideology more modern than ideas he was himself abandoning as a Tory "wet" in the early Eighties. Lack of coherence in the Commons, lack of will in the Cabinet, lack of trust in the country: all these have been hallmarks of the Major Government and could still bring it to bitter defeat. But if the Conservatives keep faith with the instincts that saw them win in the past and the ideas that will prepare Britain for the free-market future, then victory is still possible. Mr Patten may even find that he can replace one troubled official residence with another.

HOWARD'S TURN

Australia's new leader has a mandate: he should use it

Few people in Britain will weep at the defeat of Paul Keating, the former Australian Prime Minister whose abrasive manner and determination to turn Australia into a republic made him an object of suspicion here. Nor, we suspect, would Mr Keating want them to. He is a proud man with much to be proud about. But his defeat, when it finally came, was decisive: about a third of his cabinet lost their seats.

The fall of a veteran centre-left leader will have repercussions beyond Australia, not least in Britain. Tony Blair has looked to Mr Keating's remodelling of the Australian Labor Party in reforming his own. Now the two will have more time to talk.

The republican issue played only a small part in the result. John Howard, the leader of the Liberal-National coalition, is a strong monarchist who knows that many in his party support the move for Australia to elect its head of state. With only 10 per cent of those asked in a recent poll wanting the Queen to remain, he has promised to call a convention. This means delaying change until well beyond 2001, the year by which Mr Keating had promised a republic.

Far more important to Australian voters was the economy. Many blamed Mr Keating for not doing enough to bring down unemployment, still stuck at 8 per cent. Other recent indicators, however, are generally good: inflation is low, growth is steady and Mr Howard has room for manoeuvre in tackling the two main challenges of reducing the budget deficit and enacting labour market reforms. Mr Howard will provoke strong opposition when he attempts to reduce the power of the unions. But most Australians believe that reforms are urgently needed, and that Mr Keating, for all his attempts to make Labor a modern, business-orientated party, was not the man to carry them out.

The widespread feeling that it was time for a change was perhaps the most deadly weapon Mr Howard was able to deploy. Australians have an appetite for knockabout politics but many of them found Mr Keating's parliamentary insults and temper tantrums demeaning. Mr Howard, by comparison, is much less colourful. He has been able to use this "Honest John" image to project a promise of plain dealing and plain sailing. He does not yet convince outsiders that he has the dash and political instincts of Mr Keating; but every new leader needs time to establish himself, and the Liberal Party, which has seen six changes of leadership in tenyears, has been a rickety platform on which to build a public following.

Many of Labor's policies — such as Mr Keating's attempt to anchor Australia more firmly in Asia and cement its ties with neighbours in the Far East will continue. The party itself now seems set for a protracted struggle over a new leadership and new identity. Mr Howard, with twice as many MPs as Labor, has an unusual opportunity to put into action policies honed in opposition. He should make the most of it.

FANCY PRICES

The football boom is getting bigger all the time

When Manchester United meet Newcastle United on the field tonight, the combined value of their squads will be around £60 million. On each side, one of the players carries a price tag of £7 million. British football now commands sums unthinkable even five years ago. Inflation may have been tamed in much of the country; on the football field it is a raging tiger.

Football is full of money. Clubs have torn down their terraces and put up bright stadiums. Ticket prices for London clubs have risen to about £25, making an afternoon's football an expensive expedition for a family of supporters. The golden triangle of football, television and sponsorship is rapidly transforming the game into very big business. Manchester United's turnover last year was £44 million, and the club has just signed a kit sponsorship deal with Umbro for £60 million over six years. Indeed individual players in the top teams are now able to command personal sponsorship contracts running into millions.

Television is the goose now laying these golden eggs. With the millions of pounds available from Sky's exclusive live football coverage of the Premiership, its managers have been able to buy talent as never before. A manager determined to improve his team's performance can look for the best players overseas, offer money that ensures a transfer, and thus add a Cantona or Gullit with all the zip and crowd-pulling power that may be absent in home-grown players.

This money has given clubs unprecedented freedom to improve their game and inspire the next generation. But the windfall has not been evenly distributed among those currently in the business. The rich clubs have grown immensely more powerful, with Liverpool, Manchester United and Newcastle now moving into a super-league, far beyond the capabilities even of their nearest rivals. First division clubs take the bulk of ITV's money, which leaves them poor by comparison. But they are still better off than the second and third division clubs, who are the struggling poor, relying on local pride to fill their stadiums.

The boom is likely to stay strong, however. For the moment, Britain is especially lucky: the growth of world satellite television has added a vast audience, especially in the Far East. British football, though less elegant or classic than Italian, is overwhelmingly the most popular. And the top teams are household names from Bogotá to Bangkok.

The only danger is that, as clubs become global teams, the giants, such as Milan, Ajax and Manchester United, will become too far distant from the national leagues which train, feed and sustain them. Those players tonight whose values seem more suited to the financial pages than the sports pages need somewhere to spend their early days.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

1 Pennington Street, London E1 9XN Telephone 0171-782 5000

Titles' fight for life as market changes

From Mr Ian P. F. Dewar

Sir, Mark Seddon, Editor of *Tribune* (letter, February 26), seems shocked that his magazine will no longer be sold in W H Smith, when he should have been prepared for this eventuality. Publishing is one of the most vigorous UK markets at the moment, publishers' profits are increasing steadily and the number of magazine titles available has increased by a third in the last ten years.

Businesses like W H Smith can no longer display all the titles available, especially as their competitors are no longer just other high-street newsagents, but supermarkets, who already have a 34 per cent share of magazine retail sales.

Any food manufacturer could have warned *Tribune* that their existence would be threatened once the supermarkets started stocking the most popular titles and taking profits from the most easily achieved sales, leaving W H Smith with a less profitable business. With this simply acquired knowledge, *Tribune* could have embarked on an exercise to increase their subscription sales and thus guarantee future circulation before it was too late.

Yours faithfully,
IAN DEWAR,
48 Palace Road,
East Molesey, Surrey.
February 26.

From Mr Roger Melody

Sir, Mark Seddon is wrong to imply that political considerations influence the decisions taken by major retail newsagents on which publications they will display. Those decisions are increasingly and, many will feel, quite properly driven by just one consideration: will the publication sell?

However, a publication's freedom of speech is devalued if it is denied access to the means of distribution. We have estimated that W H Smith's and John Menzies' retail outlets account for 60 per cent of the sales of publications such as *Tribune*. In addition the wholesale divisions of those companies control the supply of publications to nearly 70 per cent of independent newsagents. Access to distribution channels is effectively in the gift of these two major companies and their decisions can make or break small publications.

When deciding if a publication will have access to these channels the dominant newstrade companies have hitherto exercised even-handed judgment, balancing their own interests against the interests of publishers and the public good. If that is now changing it poses a risk to many small publications. Let us hope that the competition authorities are alert to this danger.

Yours sincerely,
ROGER MELODY
(Publisher),
Circulation Factors,
Highfield House,
30 Highfield Road, Purley, Surrey.
February 26.

From Miss Kate Taylor

Sir, Journals like *Tribune*, which serve only a modest market, are not the only publications to suffer from new purchasing policies at W H Smith. Until now staff at the company's stores have been able to exercise their own judgment in buying books on local history.

We have had a long and happy relationship with the branch in Wakefield, providing scholarly and well-printed books at a 33 per cent discount. Quite recently the store took an initial 300 copies of one of our titles and has reordered regularly since. Now, however, the company is insisting on 48 per cent discount, 60 days' credit and a sale-or-return agreement. These terms are quite impossible for voluntary bodies like ourselves who publish works of local significance in essentially limited print-runs and work to tiny profit margins.

In places like this, where W H Smith is the only major bookseller and thus an important outlet, it seems likely that works on local history which have hitherto been viable will simply no longer be published.

Yours etc,
KATE TAYLOR
(Honorary Managing Editor),
Wakefield Historical Publications,
19 Pinder's Grove,
Wakefield, Yorkshire.
February 28.

Land of promise

From Mr Roger Vincent

Sir, Developments in Albania are indeed welcome (report and leading article, February 23). The normalisation of our representation in Tirana at ambassador level offers an excellent opportunity to build on the historic affinity between the Albanian people and Britain. Albanians have strong memories of visits by literary figures and by the Special Operations Executive in the Second World War.

During the eight months I recently spent working in Albania as an EU monitor it was obvious that this bond is deep-seated and enduring: English has become the strongest foreign language in Tirana University.

Two of the greatest assets of this "land of the eagles" are the magnificent mountains and the people, whose hospitality is second to none.

Yours sincerely,
ROGER VINCENT,
2 Parkside, West Bagborough,
Taunton, Somerset.

Universities in an age of efficiency

From Professor Ian Fells, FEng

Sir, There was a time when the job of a university don was to keep the undergraduates amused whilst they grew three years older. Times have changed. Those of us who actually have to teach and examine both undergraduates and postgraduates are not as sanguine about the maintenance of standards as Diana Warwick and the Committee of Vice-Chancellors and Principals (letter, February 26).

Universities are now run like industrial companies, some more efficiently than others, by vice-chancellors who prefer to describe themselves as chief executives. As many of these businesses have annual turnovers exceeding £120 million, much of it public money, such a change in approach may be unavoidable. But have we thrown out the baby with the bath water?

Student numbers have doubled over the last decade to over one million, twice the total Robbins was aiming at in his 1963 review of higher education. They are taught in overcrowded, inadequate lecture theatres and laboratories by dedicated staff now so harassed by bureaucracy of assessment, research grants, fundraising and inflation of A-level standards that pleasure in their vocation has all but died out.

The situation is made worse by salaries which have steadily worsened in real terms, so that a young lecturer with a doctorate and two years' experience starts at a salary of around £16,000, which is less than that of a lance corporal in the Army.

What has gone in the mad dash to amass large research contracts, with successful professors being traded like football stars, is the pursuit of academic excellence, loyalty to institutions and time to think and reflect. Harassed lecturers begrudge time spent just talking to students: they do not want to serve on university senate or council committees as it does not count towards promotion — they just publish as many research papers as possible, often of pedestrian quality.

Indeed it is quality and commitment that is slipping away at all but a tiny "ivy league" of universities. If Sir Ron Dearing can protect the university system from the madder vagaries of the marketplace and reinstate the pursuit of excellence he will have done very well.

Yours faithfully,
IAN FELLS,
University of Newcastle,
Department of Chemical and
Process Engineering,
Merz Court,
Newcastle upon Tyne NE1 7RU.
February 27.

From Professor Rosamond McGuinness

Sir, "If excellence [in higher education] is to be entrenched and the nation's resources channelled most effectively" in the important area of quality assurance, as your leading article (February 21) suggests, the gap between design of quality assessment procedures and their implementation by the Higher Education Funding Council for England must be closed.

There should be consistency and parity from institution to institution, and improvements should be commensurate with expenditure. Only then will any suggestions for higher education reform have credibility with the profession.

Yours sincerely,
ROSAMOND McGUINNESS,
Royal Holloway,
University of London,
Department of Music,
Egham, Surrey TW20 OEX.
February 24.

From Mr Ron Johnston

Sir, I hope Sir Ron Dearing doesn't rely on your Education Correspondent's history of the subject (report, February 20) for his review of higher education. Robbins reported in 1963, when the universities of Essex, Sussex and Lancaster already existed.

Yours etc,
RON JOHNSTON,
123 The Close, Salisbury, Wiltshire.
February 21.

Labour and royals

From Miss A. M. S. Hutton-Wilson

Sir, From the broadcast excerpts of his speech, Mr Ronald Davies's criticism of Prince Charles (report, March 2) was aimed specifically at his participation in what are variously referred to as "country sports" or "blood sports", according to differing persuasions. There are many who argue that "country sports" contribute to the preservation of the countryside, and Mr Davies, however backhandedly, acknowledged the Prince's environmental commitment.

However, I feel Prince Charles ignores at his peril the rising tide of public opinion concerning animal welfare, which, while arousing high passions and provoking intemperate outbursts, is no longer simply the province of so-called "cranks".

If current trends continue, "blood sports" will be a far greater cause of disapproval than adultery. Divorce will shortly resolve one issue, but the continuing participation by Prince Charles and his sons in hunting and shooting will provide ample scope for further criticism and risks undermining his otherwise admirable projects. Sacrificing it seems a small price to pay for the sake of a much more valuable contribution to the nation's well-being.

Yours faithfully,
A. M. S. HUTTON-WILSON,
Priory Cottage,
Church View, Evercreech, Somerset.
March 2.

From Mr C. L. Simpson

Sir, What has happened to politicians who believe what they say, say what they think and then stand by it? The performance of Ronald Davies and Tony Blair leaves me ever more convinced that the British public would vote in droves for any political party which had members who stood or fell by their beliefs and actions.

The cringe-making picture of a Shadow Cabinet Minister withdrawing what were obviously firmly held views when browbeaten by his party leader, does no credit to either of them.

Yours faithfully,
C. L. SIMPSON,
1 Maplewood Gardens,
Beaconsfield, Buckinghamshire.
March 2.

Countryside consensus

From Sir David Steel, MP for Tweeddale, Ettrick and Lauderdale (Liberal Democrat)

Sir, Marion Shoard (letter, February 21) suggests that I was endeavouring, in my letter of February 15, to pour cold water on consensus in the countryside [see also letters, February 9, 12, 16, 17]. Nothing could have been further from my mind. It is crucial that the countryside gets proper recognition and support from all political parties.

But what we all must appreciate — and this comment applies equally to those who live in the country as well as those who live in our towns — is that the British countryside is just as much a place of industry as any other part of Britain. Country people go about their business in a diligent and sensible manner, often in the face of simple misunderstanding, sometimes regrettably in the teeth of outright antipathy.

Ms Shoard's example of the existence of a "right to roam" in Sweden and Norway provides a perfect illustration. In Sweden, for every square kilometre of land there are 19 inhabitants, in Norway just 13. But in the United Kingdom, for every square kilometre there are 239 people: the figure for England alone is 373.

If the British countryside is to remain the thing of beauty which is admired throughout the world, and if it is to continue to provide food for our tables and recreation for millions of our citizens, its delicate equilibrium must be recognised and it must be respected. That is why it must be sensibly managed.

Yours sincerely,
DAVID STEEL
(Executive Chairman),
The Countryside Movement,
11 Tufton Street, SW1.

Voices on 'Today'

From Mr F. Walford Taylor

Sir, Your columnists (February 27-29; March 1; see also letters, February 29, March 2) have suggested, in turn, that Mr Hobday's tenure on the *Today* programme be preserved by disposing of the services of one of the other presenters, namely, Humphrys, Naughtie, Ford or MacGregor.

May I respectfully propose that in the interest of both economy and listening pleasure the services of *all* of them be dispensed with and that, following the precedent of their predecessor, Mr Jack di Manio, Mr Peter Hobday be appointed sole presenter at an appropriately enhanced salary.

I am, Sir, your obedient servant,
F. WALFORD TAYLOR,
Southlands, 29 Compton Way,
Moor Park, Farnham, Surrey.

Letters should carry a daytime telephone number. They may be faxed to 0171-782-5046.

Politics and pop

From the Director-General of the British Phonographic Industry

Sir, The reason so many politicians attend the Brit Awards is not that they hope to be seen grooving on TV by the nation's youth (leading article, February 21; see also letters, February 24 and 29).

The music industry enjoys a close relationship with politicians from all parties because politicians recognise its economic value. In 1995 the UK music industry was worth £1 billion at home, and earned a further £1.1 billion in exports. It defines an image of Britain abroad that helps to sell other British goods and services.

Politicians may also recognise the cultural value of the music industry, providing as it does the soundtrack to the nation's daily life.

Yours sincerely,
JOHN DEACON,
Director-General,
BPI, 25 Savile Row, W1.
February 21.

The right answer for the National?

From Mr John Goodwin

Sir, Benedict Nightingale questions whether Trevor Nunn, the favourite to succeed Richard Eyre as Director of the National Theatre, is the best choice ("Can Nunn really be the answer?", Arts, February 28). He worries that Nunn's established brilliance as a director, and his experience skilfully running the RSC in the 1970s, leave him with "nothing to prove", adding that he is unlikely therefore to possess the fire and commitment the job needs.

This is surely nonsense. The passion to achieve remarkable (and sometimes risky) things never leaves a truly creative person. Moreover, Nunn is in a strong position to resist inevitable siren calls tempting him away from the National now and then with offers of the occasional film or lucrative stage production. His success with musicals has made him a wealthy man. My guess is that he would now find a total commitment to the National both fulfilling and challenging.

Surprising, too, are the reasons for Nightingale's inclination towards the other front-runners, Sam Mendes, 30, and Stephen Daldry, 35 — chiefly, it seems, that Nunn (for heaven's sake) is 56. This not only dashes my hope that ageism is fast becoming unfashionable. It misses the point. The best person for the job is the best person for the job.

The talented Sam Mendes and Stephen Daldry should be left, for a while at least, to continue running the Donmar and the Royal Court respectively, to the benefit of the theatre as a whole.

Yours sincerely,
JOHN GOODWIN,
52a Digby Mansions,
Hammersmith Bridge Road, W6.
March 1.

From the Artistic Director of the Royal Shakespeare Company

Sir, I have absolutely no intention of contributing to the debate about the next Director of the National Theatre. However, I was so dismayed by Benedict Nightingale's insinuation that Trevor Nunn would be a "part-time captain" of the National Theatre, were he to succeed Richard Eyre, that I must briefly break my silence.

Peddling worn-out, unsubstantiated gossip from the early 1980s about Nunn's so-called "absenteeism" surely besmirches his honour and demeans the achievements of one of the giants of contemporary theatre.

And what evidence does Mr Nightingale bring to bear? A "reputed" letter to Jimmy Savile from a group of company pranksters, which incidentally was never sent (the reason they had not seen Trevor Nunn was that he was on sabbatical leave, the first he had taken in 16 years at the helm of the largest theatre company in Britain). And Ken Branagh's jokey accusation that Trevor did not see his *Henry V* until its 138th performance — an accusation that Nunn quickly stated, in a letter to *The Observer*, to be totally without foundation and which I believe Ken to have regretted ever since.

As a "rookie" RSC director in the early 1980s I found Trevor one of the most inspiring people I had ever met and capable of commanding extraordinary loyalty in all quarters of the company.

Yours faithfully,
ADRIAN NOBLE,
Artistic Director,
Royal Shakespeare Company,
Stratford-upon-Avon, Warwickshire.
March 1.

In the steps of Drake

From Mr Michael Ward

Sir, The barely known historic sites along the Thames (letters, February 23, 28) deserve close attention from those reviving river bus services as an essential link to the millennium site at Greenwich (report, later editions, February 29). Most of them are best visited from the river.

What Mrs Dorothy Elliott calls Drake's Steps are surely known also as Commissioners' [of the Admiralty] Stairs. A plaque, placed in 1981 on the former Royal Victoria Dockyard store near by, marks the 400th anniversary of Drake's circumnavigation of the globe and Queen Elizabeth's visit to the *Golden Hind*.

Donated by the Drake Society of Palo Alto, California, the plaque narrates at length Drake's achievement and the link between his American landfall and this site.

Yours faithfully,
MICHAEL WARD,
5 The Lane,
Blackheath Park, SE3.
March 1.

A sea change

From Mr A. D. Baird

Sir, Yesterday I applied a coat of white marine gloss to the topsides of my sailing boat and, having completed the job, stepped back to survey the fruits of my efforts: only to find the wet hull peppered with small flies stuck in the paint.

Does this qualify as the year's "first sighting"?

Yours faithfully,
ANDREW BAIRD,
2 Wrights Close,
South Wonston,
Winchester, Hampshire.
February 28.

COURT CIRCULAR

BUCKINGHAM PALACE
March 2:
The Princess Royal, Patron, Scottish Rugby Union, accompanied by Captain Timothy Laurence RN, this afternoon attended the International Rugby Match between Scotland and England at Murrayfield and was received by Her Majesty's Lord-Lieutenant of the City of Edinburgh (Mr Norman Irons, the Rt Hon the Lord Provost).
March 3:
The Duke of Edinburgh, President, World Wide Fund for Nature — WWF International, carried out engagements in Paris.

Today's royal engagements

The Queen and the Duke of Edinburgh will give a reception at Buckingham Palace at 6pm for the winners of The Queen's Awards for Export, Technological and Environmental Achievement.

The Princess Royal, as President of The Princess Royal Trust for Carers, will attend a meeting of the committee of trustees at 8I Newgate Street, EC1, at 11am.

Princess Alexandra, as President, will attend a reception given by the Friends of the V&A at the Victoria and Albert Museum at 7.20pm.

Today's events

The Queen's Life Guard mounts at Horse Guards at 11am.

The Queen's Guard mounts at Buckingham Palace at 11.30am.

Latest appointments

General Sir Edward Burgess has been appointed by the Duke of Edinburgh, Grand President of the British Commonwealth ex-Services League, as Deputy Grand President of the league. He succeeds Admiral Sir Desmond Cassidi, who is retiring after ten years.

Mr Ray McAfee has been appointed to be a Commissioner on the Board of Customs and Excise.

Award

Mr Walter Lessing, founder and chairman of the Mid-Atlantic Club, has been presented with the Commander's Cross of the Order of Merit of the Federal Republic of Germany, at a ceremony at the German Embassy for his work in promoting closer relations between Britain and Germany.

Birthdays today

Professor Sir Alan Battersby, professor of organic chemistry, 71; Sir Arthur Bryan, former Lord Lieutenant of Staffordshire, 73; Mr Nicholas Coleridge, journalist, 39; Mr Kenny Dalglish, football manager, 45.

Mr Graham Dowling, cricketer, 59; Professor H. J. Eysenck, psychologist, 80; Mr Harvey Goldsmith, impresario, 50; Mr Jeff Grayshon, rugby league player, 47; Mr Bernard Haitink, conductor, 67; Mr John Hunt, former Headmaster, Roedean School, 64; Lord Johnston of Rockport, 81; Mr Ralph Kirshbaum, cellist, 50; Mr Stuart Mawson, otolaryngologist, 78; Mr Patrick Moore, astronomer, 73; Mr Alan Sillitoe, writer, 68; Mr Peter Skellern, composer and singer, 49; Sir Keith Stuart, chairman, Associated British Ports Holdings, 56.

Anniversaries

BIRTHS: Henry the Navigator, Portuguese patron of voyages of discovery, Porto, 1394; Antonio Vivaldi, composer, Venice, 1673; Sir Henry Raeburn, portrait painter, Edinburgh, 1756; Giovanni Schiaparelli, astronomer, Savigliano, Italy, 1835; Admiral Luis Carrero Blanco, Prime Minister of Spain 1973, Santona, Spain, 1903; Jim Clark, world champion racing driver, Berwickshire, 1936.

DEATHS: Saladin, Sultan of Egypt 1175-73, Damascus, 1193; Bernard Gilpin "Apostle of the North", Houghton-le-Spring, Durham, 1583; William Willett, originator of daylight saving, Chislehurst, Kent, 1915; Sir Charles Sherrington, physiologist, Nobel laureate 1932, Eastbourne, 1952, William Carlos Williams, physician and poet, Rutherford, New Jersey, 1963.

King Henry VI was deposed by Edward Duke of York (King Edward IV), 1461. He was restored in October 1470.

The RNLI was founded, 1824.

The Forth Bridge was opened, 1890.

The first North Sea gas was piped ashore off the Durham coast, 1967.

Nature notes

LAPWINGS are wheeling and tumbling, and making their "peewit" cry, over the open spaces where they will nest. They also dive out of the sky at other lapwings on the boundaries of their territory, or chase them over the grass, running very fast with their long crests lifted.

Many small birds have formed into pairs, and fly around their territory together. Chaffinch pairs are common now in gardens: the male has a pink breast and, in spring, a bright blue cap, while the female is mostly olive-brown.

Pairs of reed buntings sit conspicuously in the tops of waterside willows: both sexes have moustaches, and the male has acquired a black cap and white collar for the summer.

On some early hawthorns, the leaf-buds are breaking into



The lapwing

tiny green shoots; on many of the bushes there are also dark red berries from last year's enormous harvest. Alder trees are covered with catkins, most of them still hard and purple, while others are green and dangling.

Sweet violets are in flower on sheltered banks in the woods: they will be followed at the end of the month by common dog violets and wood dog violets, both of which have unscented flowers.

DJM

MARTIN BEDDALL



St Hugh's Carthusian monastery, which hopes to increase recruitment to the order once restoration is complete

Historic Carthusian house restored

BY A STAFF REPORTER

THE last working Carthusian house in Britain, St Hugh's monastery at Parkminster, West Sussex, is nearing the final stages of its restoration.

The monastery, which dates from about 1874, is an unusual example of 19th-century French architecture in England. Built in the French Gothic Revival style to the design of the Normand Brothers of Calais, the monastery is a Grade II* listed building, and is remarkable for its size and the unity of design.

The Order of Carthusians, with its distinctive white habit, was founded in 1084 by St Bruno in Chartreuse, France, and houses were established throughout Europe. The order was established in England in 1180 but dissolved by Henry VIII. The Carthusians built St Hugh's after fears that the Government of the Third Republic (1870-1940) would expel the order from France. Today there are 25 monks living in seclusion at St Hugh's monastery. They are vegetarians and each inhabits a self-contained cell with a garden.

The monastery is being been restored with the help of a £117,107 grant from English Heritage. Bill Startin, head of English Heritage's conservation team for the South East, said: "The monastery is of outstanding importance because of the quality of materials used and the building's construction methods, together with its liturgical and other furnishings."

The grant has enabled phase four of a five-phase programme of urgent repairs to the monastery to be completed. The next phase includes repairs to the library roof, cloister garth roofs and more cells. The final phase of repairs will cover the church roof, tower belfry and floors, sacristy and sacristan's cell and remaining monks' cells.

The refurbishment progamme, previous phases of which have also been funded by English Heritage, is intended to bring the monastery to a condition that will increase recruitment to the order, which will in turn help to ensure the building's long-term survival. The current programme is expected to be completed by the end of the year, but further repairs to the monastery may be considered.

St Hugh's operates on a limited income and the general chapter of the Order of Carthusians has given the monastery £1 million towards the repair programme.

Latest wills

Recent estates include (net, before tax paid):

Mr Thomas Martin Brentnall, of Burton upon Trent, Staffordshire £867,830
Mr Albert William Moore, of Cheltenham, Gloucestershire £1,008,938
Mrs Pamela Mary Murphy, of Hollingdon, Buckinghamshire £1,034,293
Mr David Newton, of Framlingham, Suffolk £858,348
Mr Lawrence William Pilgrim, of Camberley, Surrey £940,465
Mr Ronald Tudor Pugh, of Sheppey, Kent £857,972
Mr Gordon William Raybould, of Sevenoaks, Kent £1,909,724
Mrs Alma Mary Frances Riches, of Chedgrave, Norfolk £1,106,990
Dr Patrick Quin Maunsell Spaight, of King's Lynn, Norfolk £793,251
Mr Ralph William Thompson, of Ruskington, Lincolnshire £1,097,052
Mr Robert Charles Kilpatrick Thomson, of South Littleton, Worcester £1,954,971
Mr John Robert Bourne, of Mansfield, Nottinghamshire £703,051
Mr Cyril John Ellis Brake, of Hartley Wintney, Hampshire £1,854,897
Mrs Gizella Rochelle Fowler, of London SW6 ..... £1,061,735

University news

The Queen's University of Belfast Queen's University has won research funding of more than £3.3 million.

The latest grants have come from a wide range of sources, including the Department of Economic Development's Industrial Research and Technology Unit, goverment departments, industry, research councils and the European Union.

The funding is for studies in the university's Faculties of Agriculture and Food Science, Engineering, Medicine and Science. The Northern Ireland Technology Centre at Queen's, the University's environmental research initiative — the QUESTOR Centre — and its institute of Irish Studies have also benefited.

The largest single grant, £1.25 million from the IRTU Technology Development Programme, has been awarded to a team from the University's Schools of Mathematics and Physics, and Electrical Engineering and Computer Science. The grant is towards the setting-up of the Northern Ireland Centre for Advanced Materials, a joint programme with the University of Ulster.

The grants include an award of about £120,000 from the European Union to Dr Ricky Rankin of the Department of Computer Science, to take part in a collaborative project aimed at increasing co-operation between European high-performance computing centres.

The European Union has also funded Queen's research on improving the wellbeing of elderly patients. This work, by Professor James McElnay of the School of Pharmacy, received a grant of £85,290.

Among other projects to receive funding is the research by Jane Leonard of the Institute of Irish Studies on conflict commemoration in 20th-century Northern Ireland, which has received £30,242 from the Central Community Relations Unit.

Appointments

To the Chair of Anaesthesia — Dr Howard Fee, formerly a Senior Lecturer/Consultant in Anaesthetics at Queen's.

To a Chair in Computer Modelling of Macromolecules/Molecular Dynamics Simulation of Condensed Matter Physics — Dr Michael William Finnis.

Dr Finnis was previously employed by the United Kingdom Atomic Energy Authority and the Max Planck Institute in Stuttgart.

To a Chair in Pharmacy — Dr David Woolfson, previously Reader in Pharmaceutical Science at Queens.

To the Chair of Accounting — Alan John Anthony Sangster, currently Reader in Accounting at the University of Strathclyde.

As Deputy Director of the Health and Health Care Research Unit — Dr Dermot O'Reilly, a former locum consultant in public health medicine and Research Fellow in the Northern Ireland Cancer Registry.

Honorary Titles

Honorary Professor, in the School of Education: Dr Fred McBride, Director of Computer Services at Queen's.

Honorary Lecturer in the School of Clinical Medicine: Dr Pooler Archbold, Consultant Chemical Pathologist in Belfast City Hospital; Dr Peter Coyle, Consultant Virologist in the Regional Virus Laboratory in the Royal Group of Hospitals, and Dr Colin Graham, a top grade Clinical Scientist in the Department of Medical Genetics in Belfast City Hospital.

Marriages

Major J.R.M. Palmer and Miss M.M. Osbaldestin

The marriage took place on Saturday at St Andrew's, East Lulworth, Dorset, of Major Jonathan Palmer, The King's Royal Hussars, son of Major-General Sir Michael and Lady Palmer, of West Lulworth, to Miss Maxine Osbaldestin, daughter of Mrs Marion Whitaker, of Appleby, Cumbria. The Rev W. Rogers officiated.

The bride, who was given in marriage by Mr Gordon Osbaldestin, brother, was attended by Jennifer Prescott, Rory Hodges and Miss Caroline Sargent. Mr Timothy Atkinson was best man.

A guard of honour was found by non-commissioned officers of The King's Royal Hussars.

A reception was held at Lulworth and the honeymoon will be spent in South Africa.

The Hon Charles Montagu and the Hon Angela Rawlinson

The marriage took place quietly in London, on Saturday, February 24, 1996, between the Hon Charles Montagu, only son of Lord and Lady Swaythling, and the Hon Angela Rawlinson, daughter of Lord and Lady Rawlinson of Ewell.

Mr H.A.E. Rogers and Mrs J.E. Mills

The marriage took place on March 2, in Falmouth, of Mr Anthony Rogers, of Carwinion, near Falmouth, and Mrs Jane Mills.

Forthcoming marriages

Mr A. Kitchingman and Miss C. Bainbridge

The engagement is announced between Andrew, elder son of Mr and Mrs E. Kitchingman, of Lidget Green, Bradford, and Catherine, elder daughter of Mr and Mrs David W. Bainbridge, of Shipley, West Yorkshire.

Mr J. Levin and Miss J. Baker

The engagement is announced between Joseph, only son of Mr and Mrs D. Levin, of London, and Janice, only daughter of Mr K. Baker, of Liverpool, and Mrs Brenda Ackroyd, of Tarleton, Preston.

Mr T.J. Slesinger and Miss E.E. Peyton-Jones

The engagement is announced between Timothy, son of Mr Anthony Slesinger, of South Kensington, London, and Mrs Jill Johnston, of Midhurst, West Sussex, and Elizabeth, daughter of the late Mr Jeremy Peyton-Jones and of Mrs Jeremy Peyton-Jones, of Puttenham, Surrey.

Reception

Westminster School

The Head Master of Westminster School held a Reception on Thursday, February 29, in Ashburnham House after the Henry Tizard Memorial Lecture given by Dr Allan Chapman, MA, DPhil, FRAS, of the Faculty of Modern History, University of Oxford. The Chairman was Professor G.L'E. Turner, FSA, Professor of the History of Scientific Instruments, Imperial College, University of London, and among the guests were representatives from a number of schools and other educational and scientific establishments.

Thanksgiving service

Lord O'Brien of Lothbury

A Service of Thanksgiving for the life of Lord O'Brien of Lothbury, GBE, PC, FRCM, will be held in the Chapel of the Order of the British Empire, the Crypt, St Paul's Cathedral at 11.30am on Thursday, March 14.

Those attending are requested to take their seats by 11.15am. For further information, please contact the Assistant Secretary, Bank of England.

Service dinner

2nd Battalion, The Royal Regiment of Wales (24th/41st Foot)

The annual St David's Day dinner of the officers of the 2nd Battalion, The Royal Regiment of Wales, was held in Cardiff Castle on Saturday, March 2.

Brigadier D. de G. Bromhead CBE LVO FRGS, Colonel of the Regiment, was the guest of honour.

Appeal on treasure law change

BY NORMAN HAMMOND
ARCHAEOLOGY CORRESPONDENT

THE Government has appealed for opinions about how the law on treasure trove should be reformed.

Lord Inglewood, Minister for the National Heritage, made clear that he wanted to hear from professional and amateur archaeologists, metal detector enthusiasts, and dealers.

The minister said that as many as 400,000 objects of archaeological interest were found in England and Wales each year, in addition to those discovered on archaeological excavations. There was, however, no overall system for reporting such finds, leaving "an important gap in our knowledge of the past", he said.

"The main issue is whether reporting should be voluntary or compulsory: at present the Government believes that a voluntary code of practice, combined with limited reform of treasure trove, offers the most practical answer." A Treasure Bill will be introduced by Sir Anthony Grant in the Commons this spring.

The Bill's main aim is to extend the scope of reporting to include items found associated with "treasure" — objects containing gold or silver — such as the pot in which a coin hoard is found. The other objective is "to remove the obligation for coroners' juries to read dead minds", Richard Morris, director of the Council for British Archaeology, said in its newsletter *British Archaeology* last month.

At present a jury must decide whether treasure was hidden with the intention of recovery. If so, and the owner or his descendants cannot be identified, it is seized to the Crown; if not — as with grave goods, ritual offerings and lost objects — it belongs to the finder. In either case, objects other than of gold or silver do not have to be reported at all, except in Scotland and Northern Ireland.

☐ The Government's discussion document on Portable Antiquities is available free from the Department of National Heritage: 0171-211 6363.

Retirement

The Dean of St Paul's, Dr Eric Evans, is to retire at the end of September. Dr Evans, 68, has been in poor health and this has brought forward his decision to retire.

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What is man, that you should remember him, a man, that you should care for him? You made him for a short while subordinate to the angels: with glory and honour you crowned him. Hebrews 2 : 6, 7 (REB)

BIRTHS

LAUGHTON-SCOTT - On 1st February 1996, to Jacqueline (née de Rhay) and Oliver, a son, Jocelyn Patrick, a brother for Louisa.

LEVESON-GOWER - On 25th February, to Emma and Mark, a daughter, Jemima Anastasia, a sister for Hughie.

THOMAS - On January 31st, to Nuala (née Fagg) and Michael, a son, James William Rhys, a brother for Selrian.

VENNERS - On February 28th 1996, to Meg (née Aberg) and Mark, a beautiful daughter Sarah Elizabeth.

WARRINGTON - On February 28th 1996, at home, to Jane (née Hoare) and Patrick, a son, Ferdinand Joseph, a brother for Flora and Pattie.

DEATHS

BATEMAN - On 29th February (peacefully) at Northam Tower, Barnard Castle, Sachsveral Osborn Fitzherbert aged 78 years, beloved husband of Kathleen, dearly loved father of Angela and Lizzie and a much loved grandfather. Service of Thanksgiving to take place in St. Mary's Church, Rokeby, Barnard Castle on Friday 8th March at 11.30. a.m. No flowers please.

CAIRNS - On March 1st, 1996, Hugh William Cairns, M.C., much loved husband of Dido and father of Peter, Francis and Cherry. Funeral at Holy Trinity Church, Melrose, on Friday, March 8th, at 12 noon. Family flowers only.

DEATHS

CHURCH - On February 24th 1996, in Oxford, Peter, aged 71 years, formerly of St. Edwards School. A much loved husband, father and grandfather. The funeral service will take place at SS Gregory & Augustine Church, Woodstock Road, Oxford, on Wednesday, March 6th at 3.00 pm. No flowers by request, donations if desired to Oxford Swans Swimming Club, c/o Reeves & Pain, 288 Abingdon Road, Oxford. OX1 4TE.

EVE - On 1st March 1996, after a short illness, Betty Vivian, widow of Lt Col Stephen Theodore Eve MBE, MC, DL. Funeral Service at the Church of St. Mary, Ashwell near Oakham, Rutland on Thursday 7th March at 2.30 pm. Flowers to Fords of Oakham, 8 Church Street, Oakham, Rutland.

FATTORINI - Mary (née Collingwood) aged 84 years, on 28th February 1996, peacefully at Summerland House Nursing Home, Guernsey, beloved wife of the late Joseph, much loved mother of Peter, Edward and Jane, a loved mother-in-law, grandmother, and great-grandmother. Requiem Mass at St. Joseph Church, St. Peter Port, Guernsey on Tuesday 5th March at 2.30pm. Relatives and friends kindly accept this intimation. Family flowers only, donations in lieu to Les Bourgs Hospice, Rue du Terre, St. Andrews, Guernsey. Private Interment.

GOLLER - On February 22nd 1996 at The Whittington Hospital after a long illness William George aged 82. Cremation at Islington Cemetery Monday 4th March.

DEATHS

GOUGH - On February 28th 1996, Mary Eveline (Mavie) aged 92, wife of the late Charles, loving mother of Michael and Brandon and much loved grandmother and great-grandmother. Requiem Mass at English Martyrs, Wallasey, Wirral, on Thursday March 7th at 11 am, followed by Interment Olton Friary, Solihull. Family flowers only. Donations if desired to the Handicapped Children's Pilgrimage Trust c/o John W. Griffith & Son, Millbank Funeral Home, Mill Lane, Wallasey, Wirral. tel: (0151) 638-5828.

MIDDLETON - On February 29th, suddenly at home William Geoffrey (Tozzy), aged 70 years. Dearly loved husband of Kay, loving father of Carol, Sheila, Wendy and Hazel and a much loved grandfather. Enquiries to J & M Humphris, 32 Albert Street, Banbury. tel: 01295 265424

PRITCHARD - On 28th February, peacefully at home, Percy of Castle Street, Hereford, in his 100th year. Much loved Husband of Kathleen, loving Father of Edward and Elizabeth and Grandpa of Katherine and Emma. The funeral service will be held at Hereford Cathedral Lady Chapel on Thursday, 7th March, at 1.15 pm, followed by private cremation. Family invites please to Dawe Bros., Westfaling Street, Hereford.

SEHMER - Mary Elizabeth. Peacefully on 29th February, Widow of the late Major John Sehmer MBE. Much loved mother of James & grandmother of Alexander, Luke & Edward. Funeral service at Guildford Crematorium, 11 am Friday 8th March. No flowers. Donations, if desired, to Help the Aged, c/o G M Luff & Partners, 121 High Street, Godalming.

MEMORIAL SERVICES

BROG - Eve. There will be a Memorial Stone Setting on Sunday 10th March at 11 am at West London Synagogue Cemetery, Edgwarebury Lane, Edgware, Middlesex.

MAYER - A Memorial Mass in Thanksgiving for the life of Alan Mayer will be celebrated on Monday 1st April 1996 6.30pm St Mary's, Cadogan Street, London SW3.

BIRTHDAYS

MAYOR Jane, have a Happy 40th Birthday, all our love Nigel and Daisy xx

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OBITUARIES

MARGUERITE DURAS

Marguerite Duras, French novelist, died in Paris yesterday aged 81. She was born near Saigon on April 4, 1914.



KNOWN pre-eminently as the author of the novel *L'Amant*, which was recently made into a film of that name, Marguerite Duras exemplified a characteristic vein of lush French romanticism. With her death, French literature and French cinema have lost a writer who was adept at turning personal reminiscence into universal truth, especially women's perceptions of things and their intimacy with place. This applies in particular to her riverscapes, from the beggar-woman of the Mekong delta in *Le Vice-Consul* to Anne Desbaresdes of the Gironde Estuary in *Moderato Cantabile*, and the *petite fille de Nevers* who meets her German lover on the banks of the Loire in *Hiroshima Mon Amour*.

Duras also made films, developing in another dimension themes already explored in print, and wrote plays to give extra life to characters already projected in her fiction. The imaginary geography which she mapped — of towns and rivers, but also of the human heart — will survive as securely as Hardy's Wessex or Proust's Combray, because it is at once individual and universal, containing places which one person has created but which we can all recognise as real.

She was an author who could express the banal with resonant simplicity, and although she was never a prominent feminist, she was a writer who linked people and places with a sensitivity which was essentially feminine.

Duras was a pseudonym which she adopted in the late 1940s, from the name of a wine-growing village not far from Bordeaux where her father once owned a house. Her real name was Donnadieu. She was the second of two children born to Henri Donnadieu and his wife, both schoolteachers who had taken up postings in French Indochina.

Marguerite Duras was born at Gia-Dinh near Saigon. The family was never well-off, especially after her father died in 1918. Madame Donnadieu continued to work as a teacher, mainly in native schools; she occupied one of the lowliest positions in the colonial service hierarchy, and the children, who became assimilated into the local community, spoke Vietnamese fluently. Their mother was bamboozled by the corrupt colonial administration into putting all her savings into the purchase of a worthless plot of land subject to flooding by the sea, an episode which is commemorated in Dura's first success, *Un Barrage contre le Pacifique*, which in 1950 nearly won the Prix Goncourt.

In 1929 Duras moved to Saigon and attended the lycée there. It was during her schooldays that she had a love affair with a rich Chinese youth. Many years later she recalled their passionate relationship in her greatest work, *L'Amant*, which won the Goncourt in 1984 and brought her international acclaim. The affair ended when Marguerite was sent to France to complete her studies in 1931. She took a degree in law and also studied politics. She joined, but was later expelled from, the Communist Party. She worked for various government bodies until she became a full-time writer in the early 1940s. All that had happened to her up to that point had simply been preparation for this calling.

Her first novel, *Les Impudents*, was published during the Occupation in 1943. Soon afterwards her first husband, the writer Robert Antelme, whom she had married in 1939, was arrested by the Gestapo and deported (they had both been working for the Resistance). She herself came under suspicion, as she recalls in *La Douleur* (first published in 1985). The head of their clandestine network was someone called Morland, later to become much better known under his real name François Mitterrand. It was Mitterrand who at the end of the war found Robert Antelme dying in Dachau and saved him in the nick of time. Duras nursed Antelme back to health, only to leave him and marry a close friend of theirs, Dionys Mascolo, by whom she had a son, Jean, in 1947.

From about 1950 onwards her literary reputation steadily increased. She was linked by commentators with the *nouveau roman* movement launched in the early 1950s by Alain Robbe-Grillet, but although in some respects her writing resembled the experiments of Robbe-Grillet and his friends, she was never a close member of the group. For one thing, they were mostly her junior in years, for another, they were usually published by the avant-garde press Éditions de Minuit, whereas she was mainly published by the more conservative and establishment house of Gallimard.

But above all else, she was more interested in people than they were. Her characteristic manner and subject-matter were reaffirmed in the short novel *Moderato Cantabile* (1958). Beautifully filmed by Peter Brook in 1960, with Jean-Paul Belmondo in the role of Chauvin and Jeanne Moreau as Madame Desbaresdes, and set in the bleak winter landscape of the Gironde Estuary not very far from Duras, this understated tale of a passionate but unconsummated love affair between a workman and an industrialist's wife paved the way for deeper, more autobiographical explorations of doomed love, culminating in *L'Amant* (1984), but best expressed in the film she wrote for the director Alain Resnais, *Hiroshima Mon Amour*, which came out in 1959.

This film introduced audiences to a French actress who is making a film about the atomic bomb in the city where it was first dropped. Although fairly happily married, she has a brief but intense affair with a Japanese businessman, an episode clearly modelled on Duras' own experience with the young man in Saigon who was her first lover. The brilliance of the story lies in the way in which the tragedy of Hiroshima is linked with the Frenchwoman's personal suffering, which the visit to Japan and the love affair enable her to exorcise: she had, as a young woman in occupied Nevers, fallen in love with a German soldier, for which, at the Liberation, she had been punished by having her head shaved. She had been unable to talk of this humiliation to anyone until, in the arms of her Japanese lover, she can cry out, in one of the most cathartic moments on film, *C'était mon premier amour, tu sais!* The barely controllable power of sexual love, especially of first love with its purity and its incandescence, runs as the leitmotif through all of Duras' work.

After writing other film scripts, and adapting prose works of hers such as *Le Square* for the stage with considerable success, Marguerite Duras launched herself as a film-maker in her own right. Her films, it is fair to say, earned her a *succès d'estime* (in 1975, for instance, *India Song* won the Grand Prix de L'Académie du Cinéma) rather than box-office triumphs. But there can be no doubt about her interest in, and commitment to, cinema as an art form, even if her finest writing for the screen was filmed by other, more gifted, directors like Resnais and Brook.

She lived partly in Trouville, where she owned a flat overlooking the sea, partly in the country not far from Paris at Neauphle-le-Château, and the rest of the time in Saint-Germain-des-Près. All three places are featured in her fictional writings. Her personal life was not especially happy: both her marriages ended in divorce, and for over three decades she was a chronic alcoholic. In 1982 she underwent disintoxication from which she almost died, and thereafter never enjoyed good health, suffering particularly from emphysema.

In 1988 she lapsed into a coma from which she was not expected to emerge, and was given up for dead. Remarkably, she recovered to publish a final novel, *La Pluie d'été*, in 1990. Her novel *L'Amant* waas made into a film directed by Jean-Jacques Annaud in 1992.

CARDINAL JOHN KROL

Cardinal John Krol, Archbishop of Philadelphia, 1961-88, died on March 3, aged 85. He was born in Cleveland, Ohio, on October 26, 1910.



A FORMER mentor and longtime confidant of Pope John Paul II, John Krol was a leader of the conservative, traditionalist wing of the Roman Catholic Church in the United States. His attitude to moral and ethical problems very much reflected the views of his Philadelphia diocese which was, however, to come under increasing pressure from more liberal Catholics in the United States and Latin America in recent years. In these circumstances John Krol remained a vital transatlantic link to the Pope.

The two men knew each other well. Krol, a vocal anti-Communist, had travelled to Poland during the years of the Cold War, where he met and befriended the then Archbishop of Krakow, Karol Wojtyla. He became an important pipeline between the Vatican and church leaders in Poland, and in 1978 was a major influence in the elevation of Wojtyla to the pontiff's throne as John Paul II.

Krol was also highly regarded in the Vatican for his administrative acumen. He kept the finances of the Philadelphia archdiocese sound, at a time when those of the Vatican were in notoriously poor shape in the wake of the collapse of the Italian Banco Ambrosiano, a scandal in which the Vatican bank, the Institute for Religious Works, had been implicated. When, in 1987, Krol visited Rome to prepare the way for the Pope's projected visit to the US, he was at some pains to point out to Vatican officials that, as one of the two largest contributors (with the West German Catholic Church) to the Vatican's upkeep, the American Church would require "the maximum amount of candour" about the state of Vatican finances.

John Joseph Krol's own roots were Polish. The fourth of eight children of immigrant parents, John and Anna Pietruszka Krol, he began working as a grocery store manager before turning to the priesthood. He taught canon law at St Mary's Seminary, Cleveland, from 1942, and was vice-chancellor of the diocese of Cleveland from 1943 to 1951. From 1953 to 1961 he was Auxiliary Bishop of Cleveland.

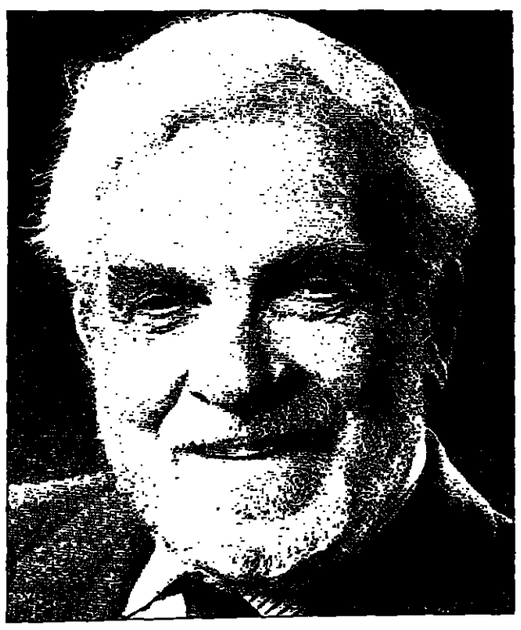
During this period in 1960 he went to Rome to help Pope John XXIII to prepare the ground for Vatican II, the council which introduced sweeping reforms in the Roman Catholic Church. His efforts were rewarded the following year by promotion to Archbishop of Philadelphia.

He established himself as a leader of the American Bishops' Conference, and within the diocese was chiefly known for his successful reorganisation of the parochial school system which had been suffering under the joint burdens of declining enrolment and rising costs.

Krol supported the Pope strongly on such issues as abortion and the erosion of morality, and he was also stoutly anti-Communist. But at the same time he was a severe critic of American policy on the maintenance of a nuclear deterrent. Among the influential Vatican posts Krol held was his membership of the Pontifical Commission for Mass Media Communications, and he was also a member of the Pontifical Commission for the Revision of the Code of Canon Law.

PROFESSOR N. B. MARSHALL

Professor N. B. (Freddy) Marshall, FRS, marine biologist, died on February 13 aged 81. He was born on February 5, 1915.



A WORLD authority on oceanic biology, Freddy Marshall had a particular interest in fishes, especially those of the deep sea. But his prodigious knowledge covered many groups of marine animals besides fish. Of his six books, at least three stand as classics in their field. He also published some 70 papers, focused mainly on fish systematics.

Norman Bertram Marshall, known by all his friends as Freddy, was educated at the Cambridgeshire High School. In 1933 he won an Exhibition to Downing College, Cambridge, where he took a double first in the Natural Science Tripos.

In 1937 Marshall joined Professor (later Sir) Alister Hardy's research team at University College, Hull. He had been recommended as "a man of considerable personality, stockily built, thoroughly cheerful and happy" by his Cambridge professor, J. Stanley Gardiner, who had been impressed by Marshall's ability to keep his strength and spirits up on the various long trawler trips which he made — three to Iceland, one to Bear Island and one to the Faeroe Isles. These voyages had considerably broadened his interest in marine animals. While in Hull, Marshall worked on analysing the catches of Hardy's Continuous Plankton Recorder, a device towed behind commercial vessels to collect and record spatially the distribution of plankton.

During the Second World War Marshall was commissioned in the Army and entered the Operations Research Group. In 1944 he was seconded to special duties in the Falkland Islands Dependencies Survey. After collecting 25 noisy husky dogs from Labrador, he spent one year in Grahamland, Antarctica, on Operation Tabarin, working mainly on marine biology and hydrology. In 1953 he was awarded the Polar Medal (Silver) and in 1966 the Royal Geographical Society named a mountain after him — more durable, he felt, than the mere glaciers which were named after his friends.

Marshall returned to Hull after the war, but not before depositing his Antarctic collections at the British Museum (now The Natural History Museum). The magnificent collection of fishes there so impressed him as a potential resource for pursuing deep-sea interests that he applied for, and got, a post as assistant keeper. His initial studies of the Lilliputian fishes of the ocean were on buoyancy specialisations, initially in the lantern fishes which climb nightly to the surface layers to feed.

He published his first book, *Aspects of Deep Sea Biology*, in 1954. It was a milestone in oceanic biology, providing the most complete account hitherto of life in the largest habitat on earth and, like all Marshall's writing, was stimulating to professional zoologist and layman alike. It was illustrated by his wife, Olga, who was also to collaborate with him on several later books.

By 1962 Marshall had risen to the rank of senior principal scientific officer by special merit, and he served on many national and international marine and Antarctic committees. One such was the Special Committee for Oceanic Research and in 1957 he attended the inaugural meeting held at Woods Hole Oceanographic Institution (WHOI), Massachusetts. Many matters considered then are still highly relevant now: the use of the ocean as a receptacle for the waste products of a rapidly growing industrial civilisation; the ocean as a source of protein for a rapidly growing population; and the relationship between the ocean and climate change.

During the following decade, Marshall made several extended visits to the United States, principally to WHOI and to the University of Miami. He completed many valuable papers during this period, notably his benchmark study on the swim-bladder structure of deep-sea fishes in relation to their systematics and biology, together with his major review of the systematics and biology of the species-rich family of bottom-dwelling deep-sea fishes, the *Macrouridae* or grenadiers. Marshall also served as chief scientist on teaching cruises of the sailing schooner *Te Vega* from the Hopkins Marine Station, California.

He was elected Fellow of the Royal Society in 1970 and the following year *Explorations in the Life of Fishes* was published. This treatise on all aspects of fish biology is arguably the best book ever written on the subject.

Yet Marshall's immense enthusiasm for teaching led to his resignation from the museum in 1972 to take up the Chair of Zoology and Comparative Physiology at Queen Mary College, London. In the same year he was awarded the Rosenstiel Gold Medal for distinguished services to marine science by the University of Miami.

Marshall retired in 1977, but continued writing and in 1979 published *Developments in Deep Sea Biology*, a closely referenced, comprehensive extension of *Aspects of Deep Sea Biology*, which remains unchallenged as the definitive work today. At the time of his death he had almost completed a further book on the evolutionary aspects of morphological simplification and its adaptive significance in the deep sea.

He is survived by his wife Olga, and by their three daughters and their son.

DEREK WIGRAM

Derek Wigram, Headmaster of Monkton Combe School, 1946-68, died on February 6 aged 87. He was born on March 18, 1908.



DURING a 22-year headmastership, Derek Wigram witnessed a period of solid growth for Monkton Combe School, near Bath. In this time it developed from a small, inward-looking Low Church foundation into a school which enjoyed a high reputation and significant links with local science and industry.

Wigram, only the fourth headmaster in the school's history, oversaw an extensive building programme. His educational vision and abilities were considerable, exemplified by his appointment as chairman of the Headmasters' Conference, 1963-64, when private education was very much in the political spotlight. Himself a product of Marlborough College and Peterhouse (where he was a scholar and took a first in Part I of the Classical Tripos) he proved a doughty defender of the private sector.

Derek Roland Wigram started teaching at Whitgift School, Croydon, where he worked as an assistant master and careers master from 1929 to 1936. He then went on to be a housemaster and, again, careers master at Bryanston School, near Blandford in Dorset, where he stayed for ten years. During the war, however, he took an external degree in economics at the London School of Economics.

In 1946 Wigram — slightly surprisingly, considering Bryanston's "progressive" reputation — was appointed Headmaster of Monkton Combe with its self-consciously biblical Protestant ethos. At least, however, his own staunch Christian faith helped him to feel at home.

He was one of the founding trustees of Lee Abbey, the Evangelical Christian centre and community based in North Devon, and served on its council for many years. He was also an accomplished public speaker and both parents and pupils benefited from the clarity and insight of his sermons and speeches, their seriousness tempered always by light touches of humour.

Wigram's success as a headmaster owed much to his ability to capture the imagination of schoolboys — which he achieved not least by an enthusiasm for fast cars. Many were later to recall hair-raising journeys taken in those less safety-conscious days in vintage automobiles, cars which at different times included an Aston Martin, an Alvis and two Bristols. Wigram was also a keen tennis player, skier and photographer.

He leaves a widow, Catharine, whom he married in 1944 and who cared for him devotedly during his last years when he suffered from Alzheimer's disease. He is also survived by his son and daughter.

Church news

Appointments

The Rev David Jones, Rector, Baschurch and Weston Lullingfield w Hordley (*Lichfield*): to be Ministre Desservant/Priest-in-charge, St Luke and St James, Jersey (*Winchester*).

The Rev Jacob Knee, Assistant Curate, Ashby-de-la-Zouche (*Leicester*): to be Lecturer at St Botolph, Boston and Further Education Chaplain, Boston (*Lincoln*).

The Rev Ronni Lamont, Assistant Curate, St Albans, St Peter: to be Team Vicar, Hemel Hempstead: District of Gadebridge (*St Albans*).

The Rev Edward Lewis, Chaplain, Walsall Manor Hospital: to be also Assistant Rural Dean of Walsall (*Lichfield*).

The Rev Christopher Liley, Vicar, Norton (*St Albans*): to be Vicar, Shrewsbury St Chad w St Mary, and Priest-in-charge, Shrewsbury St Alkmund (*Lichfield*).

The Rev Donald MacGregor, Assistant Curate, St John the Evangelist, Walmley (Birmingham): to be Assistant Priest (Team Vicar designate), Braunstone Team Ministry (Leicester).

The Rev Carole Munn, Assistant Curate (NSM), Long Bennington: to be Assistant Curate (NSM), Saxonwell group of parishes (Lincoln).

The Rev Malcolm Nicholas, Assistant Curate, Hartley (Winchester): to be Team Vicar, Harrowby and Londonthorpe, Grantham Team Ministry (Lincoln).

The Rev Alexander Nicoll, Vicar, Longnor: to be also Rural Dean of Alstonefield (Lichfield).

The Rev Graham Paddick, Priest-in-charge, St Paul, Thornton Heath: to be Vicar, St Paul, Thornton Heath (Southwark).

The Rev Bob Pearson, Curate, St Oswald, Netherton: to be Vicar, The Church of the Ascension, Walston (Liverpool).

The Rev Patricia Quint, Assistant Curate, Hertford, St Andrew: to be Assistant Curate, Bromham and Oakley w Stagsden (*St Albans*).

The Rev Jonathan Redvers Harris, Succentor and Priest Vicar, Llandaff Cathedral: to be Vicar of Houghton Regis (*St Albans*).

The Rev David Sceats, Diocesan Director of Local Ministry Development and Warden of Readers (*Lichfield*): to be Team Leader of the Board of Ministry and continue as Diocesan Director of Local Ministry Development.

The Rev Dennis Smith, Vicar, Kerley and Oakengates: to be also Rural Dean of Telford and Telford Gorge (appointed jointly by the Bishops of Lichfield and Hereford).

The Rev David Spicer, Vicar, Christ Church, Stamford: to be Priest-in-charge, Cowbit and Weston (*Lincoln*).

The Rev Jean Staff, Priest-in-charge, St George's church, Gainsborough: to be Priest-in-charge, Haxey and Owston Ferry (*Lincoln*).

The Rev Stephen Silvester, Assistant Curate, St Jude's, Nottingham and Minister-in-charge, the Wells Community Church, Central Nottingham deanery: to be Vicar, St Luke's, parish of Gamston and Bridgford (*Southwell*).

The Rev Derick Stevenson, Rector, All Saints, Norton Fitzwarren (Bath and Wells): to be Priest-in-charge, North Hartismere (St Edmundsbury and Ipswich).

The Rev Marie Thorne, Assistant Curate, Brigg: to be Priest-in-charge, New Waltham (*Lincoln*).

The Rev Michael Trodden, Vicar, Aldborough Hatch (Chelmsford): to the united benefice of Ampthill w Millbrook and Steppingley (*St Albans*).

The Rev Ann Turner, Vicar General, Ascension Island, diocese St Helena: to be Parish Deacon, St Saviour's, Raynes Park (*Southwark*).

DEATH OF THE SPEAKER

We announce with the deepest regret the death yesterday of the Speaker of the House of Commons, Captain E. A. FitzRoy. The news of the death of the Speaker quickly reached the House of Commons and brought its sitting to an abrupt and impressive end.

The House was discussing Navy Estimates and was well filled when the Deputy Speaker rose and called: "Order, order," and the Serjeant at Arms, in official dress and with sword at side, walked up the floor and removed the Mace from the table.

The Clerk Assistant, Mr F. W. Metcalfe, conveyed to the House the news of the bereavement which it had suffered. Stepping to the floor off the dais where the clerks, in wig and robe, sit in front of the Speaker's chair, he said: "It is with extreme sorrow I have to inform the House that Mr Speaker died at 2 o'clock this afternoon."

Rising in a hushed assembly, Mr Eden expressed, as Leader of the House, its sense of the "tragic personal blow" which members had suffered in the loss of a great Speaker whom all had come to regard as a personal friend. The House yesterday was content to send, through Mr Eden, a message of deep and heartfelt sympathy to Mrs FitzRoy and her family. The House adjourned. The Lords, who were engaged in a debate on aid to China, also adjourned their sitting to express, as Lord Cranborne, its leader, said, their sense of shock and regret at the news of the Speaker's death.

The death of the Speaker brought temporarily to a standstill the whole machinery of the House of Commons. This means, in effect, a hiatus in the machinery of Parliament, for although the House of Lords can continue its business, the effective discharge of Parliamentary functions depends very much upon the Commons.

Without a Speaker, the House of Commons is no longer properly constituted and becomes little more than a Convention. The House now stands adjourned for some days while discussions proceed as to the most suitable person to be proposed as the new Speaker.

The Navy Estimates under discussion could not be voted and they will have to be submitted to the House again after a new Speaker has been elected.

During Captain FitzRoy's illness the Government gave consideration to the position that would arise in the event of his death. The matter was considered again yesterday — before the Speaker died — at a meeting of the Cabinet.

Although the Chairman of Committees of the House acts as a Deputy Speaker, his authority as Deputy derives from the Speaker himself and on the death of the Speaker the Deputy Speaker can no longer discharge the functions of the office. To avoid the hiatus which must then ensue until a new Speaker can be chosen, elected, and approved by the King, it would have been possible to pass legislation empowering the Deputy Speaker to continue to act for a short time until a new Speaker was chosen. It is believed that this course was considered and that a Bill has been in draft for some time to meet a war emergency.

ON THIS DAY

March 4, 1943

Captain FitzRoy was the first Speaker of the House of Commons to have died while in office since 1789. The procedure of electing a new Speaker has since been speeded up considerably

NEWS

Israel declares war on bombers

■ The Middle East peace process hung by a thread after the third Islamic suicide attack within a week claimed at least 19 more lives and Shimon Peres, Israel's embattled Labour Prime Minister, declared "total war" against Hamas, the group which planted a bomb on a crowded rush-hour bus.

Mr Peres is now in serious danger of losing the May 29 election to the right-wing Likud, which is demanding much harsher action against the Palestinians..... **Pages 1, 9**

Unionists boycott Ulster talks

■ Intensive talks aimed at finding a political settlement in Northern Ireland will begin without two of the main parties. The Ulster Unionists and Democratic Unionists insisted that they would not attend talks that were a form of joint authority by London and Dublin over Northern Ireland..... **Page 1**

Royal debate

Cross-party pressure for a national debate on the future of the monarchy grew as Labour MPs voiced fresh criticism of the Prince of Wales and the Royal Family..... **Page 1**

Stalking crime

Stalking would be made a criminal offence which could carry a prison sentence of up to four years under proposals being prepared by Labour..... **Page 2**

Piste peace

French ski instructors, who for years have jealously guarded their exclusive right to teach skiing in their country, have finally accepted an order from the European Union to accommodate foreign rivals..... **Page 3**

Last picture show

The Dome in Worthing, claimed to be Britain's longest-running cinema, is to have its historic fittings stripped out to become a nightclub..... **Page 3**

Art shares

Virginia Bottomley will today urge companies to give shares instead of cash to arts and heritage institutions..... **Page 4**

Lawless Russia

The growth in violence against Western firms in Russia has led British agents to offer visitors armed guards. "We could have you go around the city in a tank," said one manager..... **Page 5**

Patten's plans

Chris Patten indicated that he would like to return to top-flight politics in Britain after his stint as Governor of Hong Kong ends in June next year..... **Page 6**

Historic recital

A woman whose father died in a Nazi concentration camp is looking for an 1891 painting which shows him as a child playing the piano for the Austrian Emperor Franz Joseph..... **Page 6**

Spain turns right

In the most venomously fought Spanish general election since democracy was restored, the conservative Popular Party (PP) was claiming victory over the Socialists..... **Page 8**

Orthodox row

The two most influential leaders in the Orthodox Church are locked in a power struggle that could lead to a schism in the ranks of the 170 million Orthodox faithful..... **Page 9**

Dole in pole position

Robert Dole regained pole position in the race for the Republican presidential nomination, thanks to a decisive victory over Pat Buchanan in the South Carolina primary..... **Page 10**

New Australian dawn

Australians woke up to a new era of conservatism that could see the Liberal Party in power until well into the next century..... **Page 10**

'Dalek' keeps passengers on the rails

■ British Rail's notorious inability to tell customers accurately when its trains will run may be overcome by a voice-activated computer so advanced that it can understand not only Japanese, but even Geordie. Researchers are developing a system that will recognise timetable inquiries on the telephone and respond in a Dalek-like voice..... **Page 1**

CHRIS HARRIS



Sir Cliff Richard, who plays the title role in *Heathcliff*, a new musical based on *Wuthering Heights*, with Helen Hobson the actress he has chosen for Cathy. He said yesterday that he did not think he was "too nice and too old" to play Emily Brontë's creation

BUSINESS

Cost of failure: The DTI is conducting an inquiry into how millions of pounds has been poured into companies in south-west England that have subsequently gone into receivership..... **Page 40**

Defence: A procurement committee is today expected to recommend that Britain joins France and Germany in an armoured vehicle programme, paving the way for Britain to join the nascent European Armaments Agency. **Page 40**

Interest rates: The City is betting heavily on another quarter-point cut in base rates..... **Page 40**

Nuclear sale: The Government's campaign to secure support for British Energy, the nuclear company that is being privatised, is launched today..... **Page 37**

ARTS

New look: Today sees the launch of Gallery Week. Until next Sunday institutions across the country will be doing their best to open up the closed world of contemporary art to a new audience..... **Page 14**

Musical patronage: Irina Arkhipova, the acclaimed mezzo-soprano and Bolshoi prima donna, introduced her protégé Natalia Datsko at the Wigmore Hall..... **Page 14**

Odd drama: David Lan's new play for the National Theatre, *The Ends of the Earth*, is a curious, chaotic piece which involves conflict in the Balkans and the Balkan conflicts in a geologist's soul..... **Page 15**

Classic tale: Lesley Storm's 1949 drama about an unhappy housewife, *Black Chiffon*, is revived with Susan Hampshire..... **Page 15**

FEATURES

Equal but different: "The choice facing men today is between simpering cissy and unreconstructed lout. No choice at all. But confusion among women runs just as deep," writes Tony Parsons..... **Page 13**

Turned off: Nigel Hawkes says don't save Peter Hobday, drop *Today*..... **Page 13**

Health choices: The close relationship between humans and animals is about to become closer still. We may soon have to get used to walking around with animal spare parts inside us..... **Page 12**

FASHION

Material world: No one has more, or indeed better, ideas than the British. Iain R. Webb on London Fashion Week..... **Page 11**

SPORT

Football: Manchester United and Newcastle meet tonight in a match that is pivotal to the FA Carling Premiership season. Their player purchases amount to more than £56 million..... **Page 21**

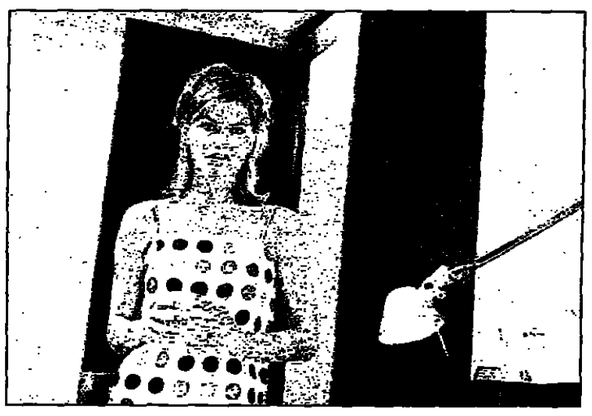
Rugby union: Jason Leonard has been cited for punching Rob Wainwright, the Scotland captain, during the England victory that ended the Scots's hopes of winning the grand slam..... **Pages 28, 29**

Cricket: England's unhappy experiences in the World Cup continued as the team slumped to another defeat, this time at the hands of Pakistan, the holders..... **Page 23**

Boxing: Nigel Benn, who announced his retirement from the ring after losing his World Boxing Council super-middleweight title on Saturday night, has had second thoughts. He says he will make up his mind after having a holiday..... **Page 32**

Golf: Paul Lawrie, of Scotland, won the weather-hit Catalan Open in Tarragona without hitting a shot. He finished his allotted 36 holes on Saturday and had to wait overnight to see if anybody would overtake him..... **Page 22**

Racing: Injury to Adrian Maguire has created opportunities for Richard Johnson, a promising young jockey, at the Cheltenham Festival..... **Page 31**



TOMORROW

IN THE TIMES

■ **ART AND FILM**
From Sickert to Damien Hirst: the love affair between artists and the movies

■ **LAW**
One carries a gun, another wears duck shirts: a look at America's stranger judges

LOTTERY NUMBERS

9, 11, 12, 24, 41, 45. Bonus: 6.

TV LISTINGS

Preview: Britain's photographic heritage is disappearing across the Atlantic. *Under Exposed* (BBC2, 7.30pm) **Review:** Can *Band of Gold* turn into a continuing saga? asks Lynne Truss..... **Page 38**

OPINION

View from the East

If the Conservatives keep faith with the instincts that saw them win and the ideas that will prepare Britain for the free-market future, then victory is still possible..... **Page 17**

Howard's turn

Most Australians believe that economic reforms are urgently needed, and that Mr Keating was not the man to carry them out **Page 17**

Fancy prices

The danger is that, as clubs become global teams, the giants will become too far distant from the national leagues which train, feed and sustain them..... **Page 17**

COLUMNS

WILLIAM REES-MOGG

Dangerous emotions arise from the resentment of those who believe that they stand outside the windows of the clubhouse of power and cannot quite hear what is being said. Pat Buchanan shares these emotions and plays on them: the hero of the disempowered. **Page 16**

PETER RIDDELL

The central message of the Scott inquiry was not that William Waldegrave or Sir Nicholas Lyell were wicked or liars — they were not — but its revelation of an instinctive preference for secrecy in Whitehall..... **Page 16**

OBITUARIES

Marguerite Duras, French writer; **Cardinal John Krol**, former Archbishop of Philadelphia; **Professor N. B. Marshall**, marine biologist..... **Page 19**

LETTERS

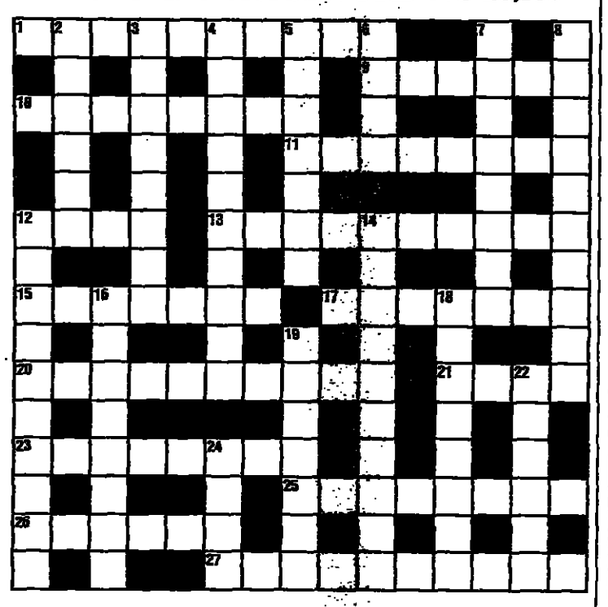
National Theatre; universities; small publications; Labour and royals: countryside..... **Page 17**

THE PARTIES

It is the IRA which would have the veto in the talks as currently proposed: the veto of violence. Nationalists, unionists and Governments would have their say. But it would be the bombers who carried the casting vote

— The Sunday Telegraph

THE TIMES CROSSWORD NO 20,106



ACROSS

1 Where one may see wild birds, not big game (10).
9 Raised in family of wolves (6).
10 Plant amateur gardener's first to change (8).
11 Criticise article about ancient Roman building (8).
12 Port is a place of safety (4).
13 Check on tax in court (10).
15 About to enter a plea for approval (7).
17 A fruit, not cored, provides sustenance (7).
20 Sign in front of church in West Midlands town (10).
21 Writer showing courage to Americans (4).
23 Extension in credit facility provision (8).
25 Cartoonist — a man, or it may appear so (8).
26 Summons the first lady's about to endorse (6).
27 Points dividing a scientist and film director (10).

DOWN

2 Well wrapped up, so was in no hurry (6).
3 On the verge of alarming changes (8).
4 Dealing with purchase's withdrawal (10).
5 A politician retreats outside and gets wet (7).
6 Drink up before noon and dash (4).
7 Left one cat a vital form of access (8).
8 Put back in office, as the controller said (10).
12 A lofty paper provided on every occasion (2,3,5).
14 To the Continental an allowance shows indulgence (10).
16 Double the food for such a dog (4-4).
18 Obscure agreement included, not properly laid out (8).
19 Barely makes a run (7).
22 Drift off, spilling oil — see it and pass on (6).
24 Part of church where primate has installed saint (4).

ABERLOUR

The solution of Saturday's Prize Puzzle No 20,105 will appear next Saturday. The five winners will receive a bottle of Aberlour single highland malt whisky.

Times Two Crossword, page 40

TIMES WEATHERCALL

For the latest region by region forecast, 24 hours a day, dial 0891 500 followed by the appropriate code:

Greater London	701
Kent,Surrey,Sussex	702
Dorset,Hants & IOW	703
Devon & Cornwall	704
Wilts,Glouc's,Avon,Somrs	705
Berks,Bucks,Oxon	706
Beds,Herts & Essex	707
Norfolk,Suffolk,Cambs	708
West Mid & Sth Glam & Gwent	709
Shrops,Herekds & Worcs	710
Central Midlands	711
East Midlands	712
Lincs & Humberside	713
Dyfed & Powys	714
Gwynedd & Clwyd	715
N W England	716
W & S Yorks & Dales	717
N E England	718
Cumbria & Lake District	719
S W Scotland	720
W Central Scotland	721
Edin S Fife/Lothian & Borders	722
E Central Scotland	723
Grampian & E Highlands	724
N W Scotland	725
Caithness,Orkney & Shetland	726
N Ireland	727

Weathercall is charged at 39p per minute (cheap rate) and 49p per minute at all other times.

AA ROADWATCH

For the latest AA traffic/roadworks information, 24 hours a day, dial 0336 401 followed by the appropriate code:

London & SE traffic, roadworks	
Area within M25	731
Essex/Herts/Beds/Bucks/Berks/Oxon	732
Kent/Surrey/Sussex/Hants	734
M25 London Orbital only	736
National traffic and roadworks	
National motorways	737
West Country	738
Wales	739
Midlands	740
East Anglia	741
North-west England	742
North-east England	743
Scotland	744
Northern Ireland	745

AA Roadwatch is charged at 39p per minute (cheap rate) and 49p per minute at all other times

HIGHEST & LOWEST

Yesterday: Highest day temp: Glasgow, 14C (57F); lowest day max: Hornsby, Norfolk, 4C (39F); highest rainfall: Wittering, Cambridgeshire, 0.20in; highest sunshine: Lerwick, Shetland, 6hr.

FLIGHT SAVERS
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LONDON TO COPENHAGEN from £149 return.
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Air UK

FORECAST

☐ **General:** high pressure is dominating the weather in the west, while a weak weather front is bringing drizzle to the east.

England and Wales will be generally cloudy, though the odd brighter spell is possible, especially in the west. Further east there will be light outbreaks of rain and drizzle.

Scotland and Northern Ireland will also be rather cloudy, but the odd brighter spell is possible. There will be some drizzle at first in the west, but this will die out, while there will be some rain in southeast Scotland.

☐ **London, SE England, E Anglia, E England, NE England, Borders:** cloudy with outbreaks of rain and drizzle. Wind gentle to moderate, north to northwest. Feeling cool. Max 6C (43F).

☐ **Central S England, E Midlands, W Midlands, Channel Isles, SW England, Central N England:** generally cloudy, some brighter spells further west. Wind gentle, northerly. Feeling mild. Max 9C (48F).

☐ **S Wales, N Wales, NW England, Lake District, Isle of Man, N Ireland:** generally cloudy but with some sunny spells. Wind gentle, northerly. Feeling mild. Max 9C (48F).

☐ **Edinburgh & Dundee, Aberdeen, Central Highlands, Moray Firth, NE Scotland, Orkney, Shetland:** mostly dry and cloudy, some bright spells. Wind gentle, northerly. Max 7C (45F).

☐ **SW Scotland, Glasgow, Argyll, NW Scotland:** cloudy, drizzle early brighter later. Wind brisk, northerly. Max 8C (46F).

☐ **Outlook for tomorrow and Wednesday:** generally cloudy, brighter in the west, rain in the east.

AROUND BRITAIN YESTERDAY

24 hrs to 5 pm: b=bright; c=cloud; d=drizzle; ds=dust storm; du=dull; f=fair; fg=fog; g=gale; h=hail; r=rain; sh=shower; sl=sleet; sn=snow; s=sun; t=thunder

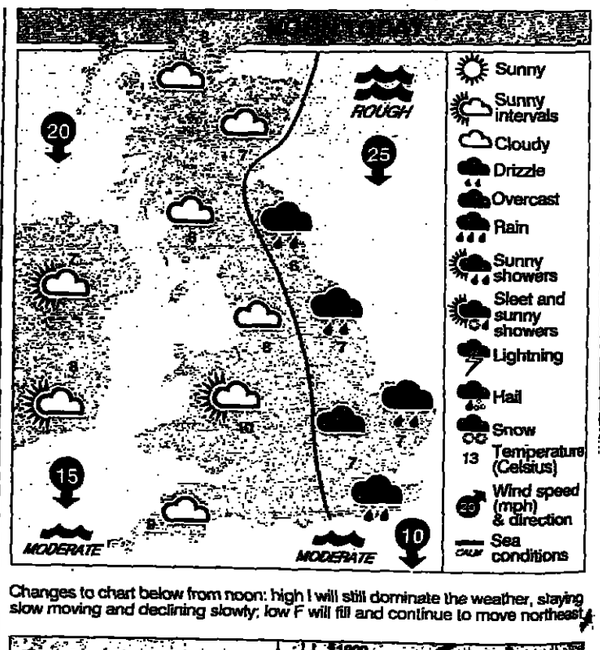
	Sun hrs	Rain in	Max C	Max F			Sun hrs	Rain in	Max C	Max F	
Aberdeen	-	0.02	9	48	du	Kinloss	0.2	0.06	10	50	c
Anglesey	1.0	-	10	50	c	Leeds	0.5	0.02	9	48	c
Aspatria	0.2	-	10	50	c	Lerwick	8.0	0.02	9	48	s
Aviemore	3.0	0.02	12	54	b	Leuchars	0.3	-	12	54	c
Belfast	3.2	-	12	54	b	Llandrindod	-	0.03	8	46	du
Birmingham	0.6	0.02	9	48	c	Liverpool	0.1	-	8	46	c
Bognor R	-	-	9	48	c	London	-	0.02	8	46	c
Bournem'th	-	0.02	9	48	d	Lowestoft	-	0.04	4	39	d
Bristol	0.9	-	8	46	c	Manchester	-	0.01	9	48	r
Buxton	0.1	0.02	6	43	c	Margate	-	0.11	5	41	du
Cardiff	1.1	-	11	52	c	Minehead	-	-	9	48	c
Clacton	X					Morecambe	-	-	9	48	du
Cleethorpes	X					Newcastle	X	0.19	7	45	d
Colwyn Bay	-	-	7	45	c	Newquay	1.7	-	10	50	b
Cromer	0.2	0.02	5	41	c	Norwich	-	0.05	5	41	du
Doncaster	X					Penzance	2.5	-	11	52	b
Dunbar	X					Pooke	0.1	-	9	48	c
Eastbourne	X					Prestatyn	X				
Edinburgh	0.6	-	12	54	c	Ross-o-wye	-	0.01	8	46	c
Eskdalemuir	3.6	-	10	50	b	Salcombe	X				
Exmouth	1.2	-	9	48	c	Sandown	-	0.02	9	48	c
Falmouth	0.8	-	10	50	c	Sauntn Snd	3.0	-	11	52	s
Fishguard	3.9	-	7	45	b	Shrewsbury	0.1	0.01	8	46	du
Folkestone	-	0.11	6	43	c	Southend	3.2	0.06	7	45	du
Glasgow	4.6	-	14	57	s	Southport	-	-	8	46	c
Guernsey	-	-	10	50	c	Southsea	-	0.01	9	48	c
Hastings	-	0.03	7	45	d	Stornoway	X				
Hayling I.	-	0.01	9	48	sh	Swanage	1.5	0.01	9	48	du
Hanne Bay	X					Teignmouth	0.3	-	10	50	c
Howe	-	-	8	46	du	Tiree	7.2	-	10	50	s
Hunstanton	-	0.03	5	41	du	Torquay			10	50	s
Ilfracombe	X					Tynemouth	-	0.03	6	43	s
Isle of Man	1.5	-	11	52	b	Ventnor	0.3	0.02	9	48	sh
Jersey	-	0.06	9	48	c	Weymouth	1.8	-	10	50	b

ABROAD

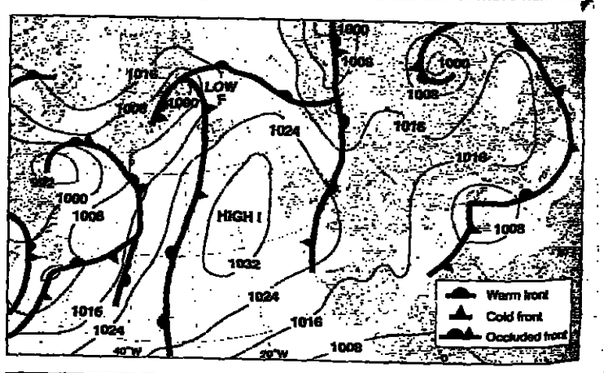
Ajaccio	10	50	f	Corfu	8	46	c	Majorca	9	48	f
Alicante	17	63	f	C'phagn	1	34	d	Malaga	17	63	s
Alex'dria	20	68	f	Dublin	10	50	c	Malta	19	66	f
Algiers	13	55	f	Dubrovnik	5	41	s	Melb'rne	17	63	f
Amst'dm	2	36	c	Faro	13	55	f	Mexico C	21	70	s
Athens	8	46	c	Florence	9	48	s	Miami	18	64	c
B Aires	26	79	s	Frankfurt	2	36	f	Milan	9	48	s
Bahrain	25	77	f	Funchal	16	61	f	Montreal	3	37	-
Bangkok	33	91	s	Geneva	4	39	s	Moscow	-6	21	s
Barbados	27	81	f	Gibraltar	18	61	s	Munich	-2	28	sn
Barcelona	10	50	c	Helsinki	-4	25	sn	N Delhi	23	73	s
Beirut	16	61	f	Hong K	21	70	s	N York	-1	30	sn
Belgrade	1	34	f	Innsbrck	-1	30	sn	Nairobi	27	81	f
Berlin	1	34	f	Istanbul	4	39	f	Naples	9	48	s
Bermuda	20	68	f	Jeddah	29	84	s	Nice	9	48	f
Biarritz	7	45	s	Jo'burg	25	77	f	Oslo	-1	30	f
Biarritz	8	46	s	Karachi	X			Paris	5	41	d
Brussels	4	39	f	L Angeles	22	72	s	Peking	16	9	s
Budapest	1	34	f	L Palmas	20	68	s	Perth	28	82	s
Cairo	20	68	c	Lo Tquet	5	41	f	Prague	3	27	sn
Cape Tn	24	75	s	Lisbon	13	55	s	Reykjavik	6	43	c
Ch'church	18	64	c	Luxembg	1	34	c	Rhodes	13	55	f
Chicago	-3	27	s	Luxor	23	73	s	Rio de J	28	79	f
Cologne	4	39	f	Madrid	10	50	s	Riyadh	32	90	s
Rome	9	48	s								
S Fr'sco	13	55	s								
S Paulo	23	73	dr								
Salzburg	-2	28	sn								
Santiago	22	84	s								
Seoul	7	45	s								
Sing'por	30	86	f								
St'kholm	-2	28	f								
Strasb'rg	3	37	f								
Sydney	X										
Tangier	16	61	s								
Tel Aviv	15	59	f								
Tenerife	20	68	s								
Tokyo	8	46	s								
Toronto	0	32	sn								
Tunis	11	52	f								
Valencia	12	54	s								
Vancouver	6	43	s								
Venice	8	46	s								
Vienna	0	32	c								
Warsaw	-5	23	sn								
Wash'ton	4	39	c								
Wel'ngton	14	57	c								
Zurich	2	36	f								

Temperatures at midday local time. X = not available

WEATHER TODAY



Changes to chart below from noon: high I will still dominate the weather, staying slow moving and declining slowly; low F will fill and continue to move northeast



HIGH TIDES

TODAY	AM	HT	PM	HT	TODAY	AM	HT	PM	HT
London Bridge	1:06	6.4	1.31	6.5	Leith	1:57	5.0	2:15	5.2
Aberdeen	0:51	4.0	1:03	4.2	Liverpool	10:50	9.0	11:09	9.0
Avonmouth	6:34	12.5	6:56	12.6	Lowestoft	9:08	2.3	9:28	2.4
Belfast	10:49	3.4	11:10	3.2	Margate	11:45	4.4	11:49	4.5
Cardiff	6:21	11.2	6:43	11.2	Milford Haven	5:42	6.5	6:01	6.6
Devonport	5:06	5.2	5:30	5.1	Newquay	4:29	6.3	4:47	6.4
Dover	10:38	6.2	10:54	6.4	Oban	5:15	3.7	5:41	3.8
Dublin (N Wall)	11:10	3.9	11:34	3.7	Penzance	4:13	5.2	4:28	5.1
Falmouth	4:25	4.7	4:45	4.8	Portland	6:02	1.9	6:35	1.8
Greenock	0:16	3.0	12:10	3.3	Portsmouth	10:47	4.4	11:14	4.5
Harwich	11:26	3.7	11:39	3.8	Shoreham	10:39	5.8	11:02	6.0
Holyhead	9:50	5.3	10:07	5.2	Southampton	10:17	4.3	10:39	4.3
Hull (Albert Dl)	5:41	6.6	5:48	7.0	Swansea	5:52	9.0	6:12	9.0
Ilfracombe	5:27	8.8	5:48	8.9	Tees	3:08	4.8	3:21	5.0
King's Lynn	5:48	6.0	6:00	6.1	Wallon-on-Naze	11:23	4.1	11:34	4.0

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HOURS OF DARKNESS

Sun rises: 6.39 am
Sun sets: 5.47 pm
Moon sets 5.58 am
Moon rises 5.09 pm
Full Moon tomorrow

London 5.47 pm to 6.37 am
Bristol 5.56 pm to 6.46 am
Edinburgh 5.54 pm to 6.54 am
Manchester 5.53 pm to 6.47 am
Penzance 6.10 pm to 6.57 am

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